

Upcoming Special Events

- ♦ **"Holiday Meals"**
Nov 24th thru Dec. 24th
Mall of Abilene
- ♦ **Paw Prints with
Santa & Mrs. Claus**
Saturday, Dec. 9th
1:00 pm to 3:00 pm
Frontier Texas
- ♦ **CLOSED ON**
Thanksgiving Day—Nov 23th
Christmas Day—Dec 25th
New Year's Day—Jan 1st

Inside this Issue

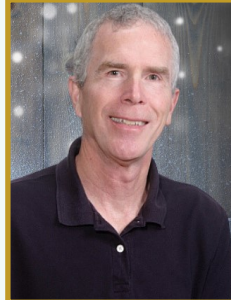
Word from our Board Chairman	2
Volunteers of the Year	2
Life Changing Knocks	3
Christmas Greetings	4
Holiday Meals at the Mall of Abilene	5
Paw Prints	5
Memorials	6-7
Honors	7
Transforming Lives	8
2023 Music for Meals Sponsors & Donors	9
Merry Christmas from Meals on Wheels Board of Directors & Staff.	10

The Scoop

Volume 48 Issue 4

November 2023

A word from our Board Chairman.....



Jonathan Sharp
Board Chairman

My name is Jonathan Sharp and I am the current board chair for Meals on Wheels Plus, Inc. in Abilene. I have been serving in that capacity since May of this year, and have been on the board of directors since 2017. I was (and continue to be) a sponsor for the golf tournament each year, and my service on the board has meant that I not only attend and contribute to the board meetings, but like other members of the board, also do behind-the-scenes work on various committees, such as taking care of the building and grounds, strategic planning, budgeting, and endowment review. It is on the committees that the bulk of work for the organization is done; the committee members do the hard work of gathering and organizing information so that they can bring their recommendations to the Executive Committee and then the full board. I can tell you that I am privileged to serve with many talented and generous people both on and off the board who are affiliated with this organization. I learn a lot from the people around me, and am appreciative of their time and talent.

We deliver to every strata of society at Meals on Wheels, and I believe strongly that this is what we are called to do. Some can pay for their meals, and many cannot. It is our policy to feed people first, and then look for the money to pay for that meal later. Meals on Wheels in Abilene delivers more than 1300 meals per day, and that number has gone up every year, and we expect that trend to continue. This is where many of you come in, as we rely on donations from the community to make up for what is not paid for, either by the client or by government programs, like block grants and grants from the Texas Department of Agriculture. I can also tell you that Meals on Wheels is very careful with your donations, stretching every dollar in this economic environment to be good stewards of what you entrust to this organization. Meals on Wheels is funded largely by private donations from the local community, and that donation need is always rising along with the number of meals that are served each day.

Continue on Page 2

DONATION DRIVE FOR CHRISTMAS FOOD BASKETS



The holiday season is a time for giving and sharing with those in need. For some, receiving a food basket is the only way they will be able to have a special Christmas dinner.

We are reaching out to anyone who would like to help us gather donations of Turkeys, Hams and other Holiday food items. These baskets, which will include all the items needed for a traditional holiday meal, will be distributed to nearly 100 of the most needy Meals on Wheels recipients served in Taylor, Callahan, Jones, and Runnels Counties.

If you would like to help with this food drive, please visit us at 717 N. 10th St. or call, Brandi at (325) 672-5050. Your support is greatly appreciated and will make a difference!

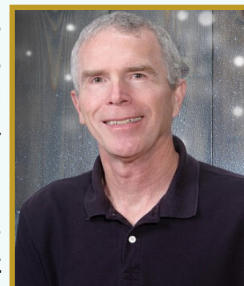


Continue from page 1

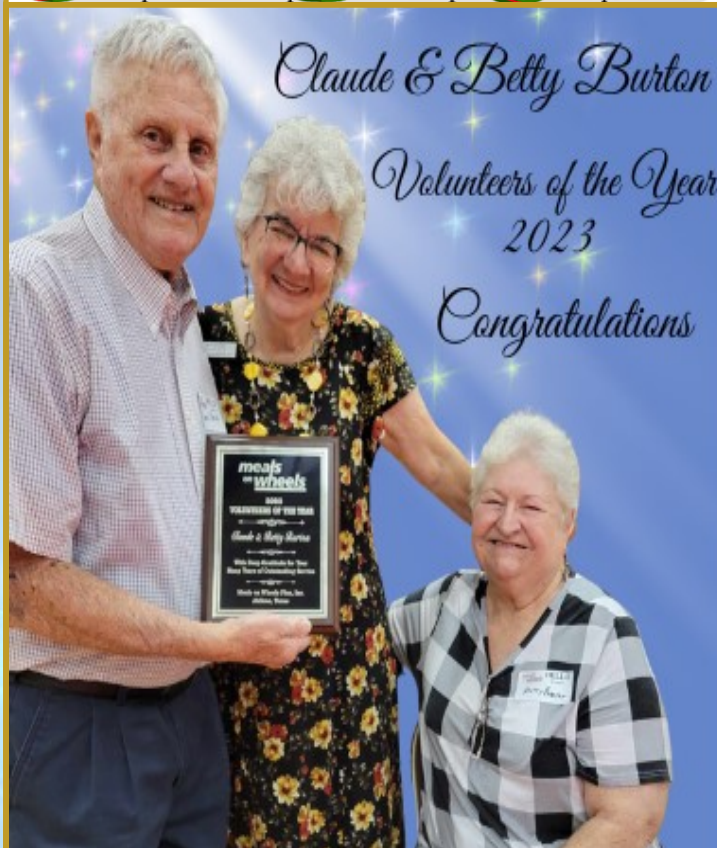
I have been delivering meals for Meals on Wheels for much longer than I have been serving on the board of directors, ever since my now-college-age girls were babies and toddlers. At that time I had been thinking about volunteering to deliver, and had a friend that volunteered who would encourage me to join the team of volunteers; I just never got around to giving the office a call.

That is, until one day when it was snowing in Abilene and I heard on the radio that Meals on Wheels desperately needed drivers, because so many of the regular drivers could not drive in the snow that day. I had a 4-wheel drive truck, as well as years of experience in the Northeast as well as overseas driving in snowy conditions, so off I went. It felt great to be able to help the community that day using a skill-set that I already had. That was the first day that I delivered, but certainly not the last.

As I continued to deliver meals through the years, I would sometimes bring along my daughters when I delivered, and they loved helping out and getting greeted by the clients. The clients also loved their energy and seeing them. Bringing children along on the delivery route brings joy to the clients as well as to the children. I also remember when I started volunteering, Meals on Wheels was in the old building, and it was very clear at the time that the building was not large enough to meet the growing need for home-delivered meals. The new building (if we can still call it new at almost 20 years old) can handle the meals needed to serve the community, but we are always short on volunteers to meet the ever-expanding need. If that is something that you have been considering, I encourage you to act on it and start volunteering. It takes just about an hour of your day, and you can volunteer just one day per week, like I do, or as many as you like. If your schedule does not allow you to volunteer as a driver now, I would encourage you to talk to those in your circle of influence and tell them about the ongoing need for volunteers to deliver.



Jonathan Sharp
Board Chairman



Claude & Betty Burton have been delivering meals to Meals on Wheels recipients since 1988.

Betty was the Official Greeter on Tuesday for many years and continues to substitute as a Greeter when needed. She has always handled the volunteers with ease and does an amazing job.

Claude & Betty deliver two routes each Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, as well as substituting on Wednesday and Friday. They have both volunteered with the holiday fundraisers like "Easy as Pie" at United Supermarkets in November and at the Mall of Abilene with "Holiday Meals" in December for many years.

The Burton's are such an amazing couple, always willing to help and you can clearly see the love they have for people. Claude is always putting a smile on volunteers' faces as he jokes with them and Betty with her graciousness to others. They are a very upbeat couple and a joy to be around.

Thank you for your many years of service to Meals on Wheels. Congratulations Claude and Betty!





Life-Changing Knocks

Every knock from Meals on Wheels delivers the food, compassion and care that our aging neighbors need.

When you volunteer with Abilene Meals on Wheels, you are doing much more than delivering a meal! You are providing moments of personal connection and much-needed wellness checks to our seniors. You're also doing something valuable for yourself. There are many personal benefits to becoming a volunteer.

"As a volunteer the benefits are intangible. We are called to serve others. By serving we are rewarded!" - Brenda Stremmel

To learn how to become a volunteer, please call **325-672-5050**, or go to **mealsonwheelsplus.com** and click on the "volunteer" button.

meals
on wheels
PLUS, INC. **(325) 672-5050**
mealsonwheelsplus.com

Volunteering....

- Connects you to others
- Is good for your mind and body
- Brings fulfillment to your life
- Helps counteract the effects of stress, depression and anxiety
- Makes you happy the more you give, the happier you'll feel
- Provides a sense of accomplishment
- Provides a sense of purpose
- Helps you stay physically healthy



During This Joyous Season

a gift in honor of

John Doe
has been given to

Meals on Wheels Plus, Inc.
P.O. Box 903
Abilene, TX 79604
(325) 672-5050

by
Tom Jones

The Gifts I'd Leave You

The Gifts I'd leave beneath your tree
Aren't those that you can touch nor see
Not Wrapped in Christmas tissue gay,
But gifts to bless you every day

The gift of friendship, warm and true,
Is one that I would leave for you.
Good health and happiness and cheer
To keep you smiling through the year.

The gift of peace that come from God,
With prayer to guide each path you trod,
And when your heart has lost its song,
The gift of hope to cheer you on.

These are the gifts, I'd leave for you
To bring you joy your whole life through.

By Kay Hoffman

May this thoughtful tribute bring you joy
as it provides a hot noon meals for the homebound.



CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

**Are you looking for a
meaningful gift for a
family member or friend?**

Meals on Wheels invites you to honor people on your holiday shopping list with a gift of any amount that will feed the hungry.

Your gift will help provide a hot home delivered lunch and a smile for someone who is no longer able to prepare nutritious meals for themselves.

It's easy and you don't have to fight the crowds at the store. Make a contribution to Meals on Wheels in lieu of gifts or cards to friends and family.

We will send this lovely letter to notify them of your thoughtful tribute.

Just enclose a list of names and addresses with your donation. Mail to:

Meals on Wheels Plus
P.O. Box 903
Abilene, TX 79604

For more information call
(325) 672-5050 or stop by our office
at 717 North 10th St. Abilene



**VOLUNTEERING IS AT THE VERY
CORE OF BEING A HUMAN. NO ONE
HAS MADE IT THROUGH LIFE
WITHOUT SOMEONE ELSE'S HELP.**

— HEATHER FRENCH HENRY

Holiday Meals

November 24th to December 24th

FOR THE HOMEBOUND

We will be at the Mall of Abilene raising funds for "Holiday Meals" for the Homebound.

Each \$10 donation provides a hot holiday meal to be delivered on December 22nd to all those enrolled on our program.

So when shopping at the Mall stop by to say "HI" & help support Meals on Wheels this holiday season.



For more information please call, JoAnne Glantz, at (325) 672-5050

or e-mail jglantz@mealsonwheelsplus.com

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED

2-hour shifts for the "Holiday Meals" table at the Mall of Abilene

Not able to make it to the Mall of Abilene?

No problem. You can still donate for "Holiday Meals" by visiting our website at www.mealsonwheelsplus.com or just scan the QR code!



PAW PICS

with Santa & Mrs. Claus

BRING YOUR "FURBABIES" AND JOIN THE FUN!

DATE: Saturday - December 9, 2023

TIME: 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm

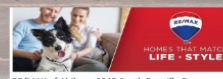
WHERE: Frontier Texas - 625 N. 1st St.

Donate a five pound or larger bag, of Dog or Cat Food to receive a complimentary photo of your "Furbaby" with Santa & Mrs. Claus!

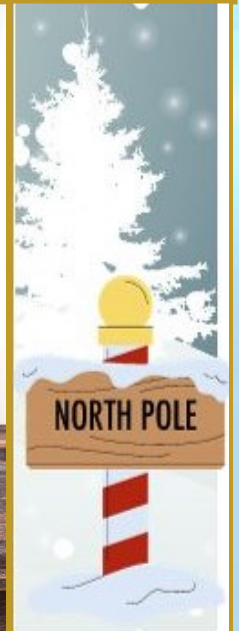
RE/MAX is partnering with Abilene Kennel Club to provide pet food for dogs and cats who need a little more this year.

This will benefit the Meals on Wheels Plus "Pet Food on Wheels" program for clients with pets.

SPONSORED BY:



RE/MAX of Abilene, 2545 South Danville Dr.





In Loving Memory

Memorials for June 19, 2023 to October 20, 2023



Bobby Ray Airhart

Betty Colburn
Marty & Lesli Frey
Russell Guthrie-Eide Bailly LLP
Leah & Bill Pendergrass

Rosa Albarado

Clifton & Maxine Michalewicz

Nell Allen

Gene & June Greenway

Virginia Anderson

Betty Casteel

Diane Charlotte Arn

Woody & Linda Gordon

Terri Auger

Expo Center of Taylor County

Connie Baird

Earl Burns & Family

Brenda L. Balkum

Mickey Baulkum

Mary Bauernfeind

Madie Newman

Camilla Becton

Ace Air Conditioning

Robin Burrow

Charles Cox & Family

Wendell Cox, Sr. & Mariella Carr

Carolyn Dycus

Scottie Belew

Betty Colburn

Randy Benedietto

James & Michelle Pittman

Gus & Jan Tamporello

Laretta Blackburn

Pat Brooks

Jim & Debi Clark

Jody, Mary, & Mark Crumbliss

Carolyn Dycus

Anita & David Green

Karen Hendrick

Stan & Elaine Huckabee

Ron Nutt

Roland & Jeri Orr

James Bradley

Rick Bennett

Janette Bradshaw

James Bradshaw

John Brady

Carolyn Presswood

Lynn Reeves

Karen Vick

Renee Brown

Elsa Baines

Anne Wilson

Eulalia Browning

Kay Browning Ballek

Carol Browning Clark

Dennis Clark

Eulalia Browning cont.

Jeffrey Clark

Annette Broyles

Paul Zimmerman

Devona Burns

Big Country Autoharp &
Dulcimer Club

Beverly Butman

Sterling & Linda Robertson

Edleen Buxkemper

Rodney & Carolyn Flanagan

Eloise Carruthers

Karen Hendrick

Ethan Chapman

Kellie & Dean Conley & Family

Deryl Max Clark

Sterling & Linda Robertson

Billy Ray Combs

Samuel & Minnie Combs

Clarence Corning

Nathan Sanders

Richard Cox

Robin Burrow

Marion Alice Dahmann

Marty & Lesli Frey

Jenette David

Lynn & Boyd King

Andrew Deatherage

Sterling & Linda Robertson

Glenn Deavers

Mary Jo Crowder

Gerri Denny

Blanche Jerige

Harvey W. Droll

Marty & Lesli Frey

Beth Edington

Janice Amarine

Frank Evridge

Dennis & Ellen Jo Seidenberger

Charles F. Fish

Sterling & Linda Robertson

Doris Freeman

Donna Chandler

Terrye & Jack Morrow

Jennie Fulton

Bill & Gena Brown

Pete & Ginger Bryan

Gary & Evanet Gallant

June Sibley & Family

Argelia Galvan

The First National Bank of

Ballinger



Kathryn Garrett

Earl Burns Family

Norma G. Garza

Ashley Phillips-First Watch

Credit Union

Loretta Fulton

David Garza, Sr.

Jim Goddard

Vance Goddard

Terry Goebel

Sterling & Linda Robertson

Tom & Gloria Gonzales

Ruben & Rose Gonzales

Peggy Jo Gray

Michelle Beaty-Eide Bailly LLP

Colleen Hadley

Sterling & Linda Robertson

Lawson Hager

Wes Soben

Shirley Harkrider

Robert & Brenda Grant

Frank Hawk

Rosa Hawk

Charles Henderson

Sterling & Linda Robertson

Marion Hill

June Heidenheimer Sibley

Valeria Hoelscher

David & Sharon Rohmfeld

Gayle Ann Hovorak

Marty & Lesli Frey

Mrs. Hutson

Leck & Tip Matthews

Homer Jannise

Ace Air Conditioning

John Johnson

Jessica Ambrose-Eide Bailly LLP

Bobby Melson-Eide Bailly LLP

Charles "Chuck" Johnston

Kaitlyn Copeland

Mickey Jones

Kirk & Pam Stubblefield

Jan Jordan

Betty Colburn

Mark & Betty DeBerry

Parmelly Kade

Larry & Suzanne McMillon

Stephen "Steve" Knight

Larry & Suzanne McMillon

Sterling & Linda Robertson

Robert Leavitt

Sterling & Linda Robertson

Armond Leblanc

Julie Childs

Gene Linn

Patti & Josh Ensor

Hilaria "Lola" Loza

Ace Air Conditioning

Joe & Mary Rose Busch

Bertha Marshall

Betty Casteel

C.R. Massey

Scott & Heather Ake

Paul MacDonald

Mickey Mathis

Charles Mathis

Button May

Kirk & Pam Stubblefield

Samye McCorkle

Ace Air Conditioning

Joe McDonald

Patti & Josh Ensor

Dorothy June McGaughey

Frances Stash

Jake Mullins

Rose Mullins

Charlyne Yvonne Murphy

Robert & Brenda Grant

Betty V. Novak

Frederick V. Novak

Alice O'Neill

Sterling & Linda Robertson

Chris Paddock

Betty Casteel

Kelly Paige

Sterling & Linda Robertson

Jayree Shaw

Kade Parmelly

A.E. Hall, Jr.

Glynn Petty

Madie Newman

Luis Picot

Sterling & Linda Robertson

Paul Zimmerman

Homer S. Pittman, Jr.

Michelle Beaty-Eide Bailly LLP

Richard Puckett

Betty Colburn

Dr. H. Taylor Rankin

Delbert & Aletta Allred

Betty Casteel

Virginia Earlyne Reagan

Joe Davis

Pam Letz

Sterling & Linda Robertson

In Loving Memory Cont.

Carol Reed

Bonnie Wisdon

Kay Reiken

Gary & Evanet Gallant

Jane Rhodes

Cindy Rhodes

Bill & Susann Roberts

Donna Bullock

Tex Robin

Ace Air Conditioning

Lucille Rohmfeld

Marty & Lesli Frey

C.W. Russell

Robert & Brenda Grant

Faye Russell

Robert & Brenda Grant

James Sanders

Michelle Beaty-Eide Bailly LLP

Margo Santos

Elsie A. Howard

Gregory Saucier

Larry & Suzanne McMillon

Paul Saxon

Linda Saxon

Gloria Schwartz

Paula McMillan

Margie Selden

Linda Lane

Anne Seybold

Ace Air Conditioning

Patti Miller

Woodrow Shaddix

Sterling & Linda Robertson

Marjorie Sledge

Rob Sledge

Sharon Matthews Smith

Larry Smith

Lori Stewart

Ace Air Conditioning

Glenda Stringfellow

Benjamin Alexander

Gene & Sue Sumner

Rodney Sumner

Jay Swonger

Mike & Dianne Wilder

Maria White

Carol Stephens

Carl Williams

Linda Byler

Marty & Lesli Frey

Mrs. Everett J. Grindstaff

Laverne Williams

Tommie & Lee Ann Harendt

Jean Jordan

Kathleen Wolaver

Blanche Jerige

Steve Womack

Mike & Mary Lou Garrett

In Honor of

Raymond Blasingame

Peggy Marler

Traci England

Mr. & Mrs. Michael Kesler

Barbara Helms

Boby Eagleston

Mina King

Boby Eagleston

Meals on Wheels Staff & Drivers

Denise Koepke

Armando & Melissa Pallarez

Esta Jeter

Byron & Louella PenrodHonoring their 61st
Wedding Anniversary**Mary Ross**

Melissa Mauricio

**Robin Burrow**

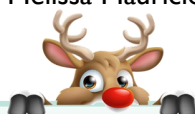
Rachel Burrow & Michael Mcquire

Margo Santos

Elsie Howard

Steven Willingham

Holly Harrison



Thank you to the following Business for donations to the 2023 Sporting Clays Classic

Ist Choice Motors
Abbey's Bottles & Brew
ABC Tent Rental
American Honey Boutique
Casa Authentique
Cash Saver
Christoval Winery



Clark Nissan
Cotton Patch Café
Filo Liquors
Heff's Burgers & Bar
Iceland Coolers
Kent's Harley Davidson
Lucy's Burgers



Outback Steak House
Red Robin Gourmet Burgers
Red Wing Shoes
Taylor County Tap House
The Shed—BBQ & Catering
United Supermarkets-Judge Ely



“Supporting Meals on Wheels’ Mission For Years To Come”



Debra Hulse-Bowles
Planned Giving
Consultant

A gift to the Meals on Wheels Endowment will preserve your values in the wake of constant change. It will provide assurance that programs that are important to you will survive and thrive. This can easily be accomplished by including Meals on Wheels as a beneficiary in your will, life insurance policy, IRA or retirement fund. These types of gifts, often referred to as planned gifts, will provide support for the Meals on Wheels Endowment for years to come.

An endowment is a forever gift; a way to ensure your support for the organizations you care about most, like Meals on Wheels Plus. When you establish an endowment, or contribute to an existing one, you create a lasting legacy reflecting your values and making a statement on what is most important to you.

In this case, you are letting Meals on Wheels know that you are deeply invested in the long-term sustainability of this organization and the vital role it plays in the lives of some of the neediest population in Abilene and the surrounding counties. You may also create an endowment in the name of a loved one, honoring that person far into the future.

For more information please contact Debra Bowles at dbowles@mealsonwheelsplus.com or 325-704-3322 or Betty Bradley at bbradley@mealsonwheelsplus.com

Join Our Team As Delivery Drivers

**BE THE
CHANGE**
VOLUNTEER &
MAKE THE DIFFERENCE



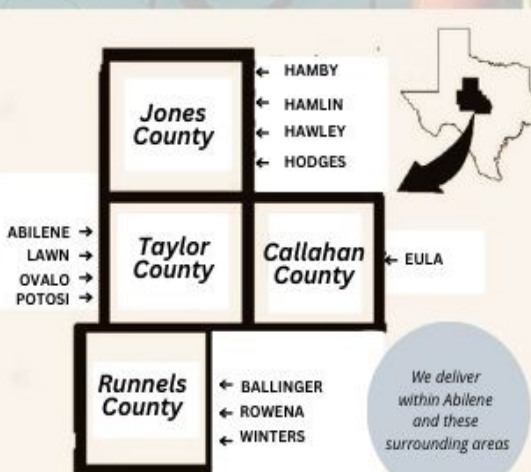
There is a spot for you any week day that fits your schedule. Would you like to deliver meals in south Abilene or North Abilene? Or perhaps a drive in the country to deliver meals to one of the small communities we serve.

It takes very little time out of your day and you will likely find someone on your route that makes you realize how your brief visit brightened their day. There is something very rewarding about actually seeing someone you are helping. It will likely leave you counting your blessings.

Don't worry about missing special holiday activities, or being worried that sometimes you can't get off work or have other obligations. Just call Meals on Wheels at (325) 672-5050 to let us know and we will find someone to fill in for you that day. Call today and sign up. We are holding that spot for you!

Providing more than just a meal

- Groceries on Wheels
- Books on Wheels
- Pet Food on Wheels
- Pets to the Vet
- Ensure & Glucerna
- Incontinence Program



**meals
on wheels**
PLUS, INC.
48 YEARS OF SERVING ABILENE

Driving away hunger one meal at a time!

"The Mission of Meals on Wheels is to enhance the quality of life for seniors and other eligible adults by providing nutritionally balanced meals and supportive services."

717 N. 10th St.
Abilene, TX 79601
(325) 672-5050

visit our website:
www.mealsonwheelsplus.com

RUNNELS COUNTY



SPONSORS



GOLDEN GUITAR SPONSOR



COUNTRY MUSIC SPONSORS



Americana Music Sponsors



Ballinger Rotary Club #1891

Davis Ranch Operations

God's Chapel

JJH Strategic Fundraising Solutions

Toliver Brothers

Winters Lions Club

Bluegrass Music Sponsor



Gospel Music Sponsors

Betty Bradley

Susan Crain

Farmers Insurance Conrad Agency

First Presbyterian Church

Gary & Evanet Gallant

Milton's Hardware

Oasis Crop Insurance Agency



R.A. Bagwell Oil Company

Rowena Lions Club

Rowena Milling Co.

Texas Pallets Inc.

Wheat Energy Services

Willingham Insurance Agency

Benefitted Runnels County Meals on Wheels Programs



47 YEARS OF SERVING ABILENE

717 North 10th St.
P.O. Box 903
Abilene, Texas 79604

Phone: 325-672-5050
Fax: 325-672-6870

E-mail:

bbradley@mealsonwheelsplus.com

Driving away hunger one meal at a time.

The Mission of Meals on Wheels is to enhance the quality of life for seniors and other eligible adults by providing nutritionally balanced meals and supportive services.

NON-PROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 356
ABILENE, TX 79604

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**Follow
Us on
Social
Media**



www.mealsonwheelsplus.com

Let's Get Connected for Our Latest News & Updates



on Facebook

@abilenemealsonwheels



on LinkedIn

@mealsonwheelsplus-inc-3b4203255



on Instagram

@mealsonwheelsplus



on YouTube

@mealsonwheelsplus7970



on Twitter

@mow_plus

*From the Board of Directors and Staff
of Meals on Wheels Plus*

