

Food for Thought

Metro-Erie Meals On Wheels / (814) 452-6930

We're Moving!

On Thursday, November 10, 2011 the Metro-Erie Meals On Wheels offices will be moving from the sub-basement of UPMC Hamot to the third floor of the Citizens Bank building on 12th and State. This move will not affect meal pick-ups from Hamot. Wendy will travel each day to Hamot and be there as she is now.

Additionally, we are acquiring two new computers, a color laser printer, both new and updated software, networked Internet connectivity and new office furniture. All the money for this move comes from a \$9,000+ grant from the Erie Community Foundation and we are most grateful for their support.



New Website: Get A Meal. Donate.

Our new website at MealsOnWheelsErie.org is set up to accomplish three important visitor activities.

First, we explain our various Meals On Wheels programs. Many referrals and clients come to us not realizing we have three different ways to get meals – free for seniors over 60 through GECAC after qualifying based on income and other factors; free for persons with disabilities who are aged 18 to 59; and with our Pay As You Go program for seniors who are able to afford to pay for their meals.

Second, we allow potential volunteers to better understand why they should volunteer for us but also to learn many of the details about this wonderful opportunity. They are also presented with a form to

use if they want to contact us by email after hours.

Third, we now are able to offer our visitors giving opportunities using PayPal - the most secure and trusted source of paying on the web. While we are set up to accept monetary donations by credit card we will be expanding giving opportunities to include Memorials and Bequests.

If you know someone who would like more information about Metro-Erie Meals On Wheels, our website is one stop shopping for all the information they need.



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Route Sheets

Wendy and I are working to computerize all our data and daily tasks to save time and create better efficiencies in the office. This necessitates certain changes that include volunteer daily route sheets.

They are now a combination of a weekly master and a daily route sheet. It completely eliminates the additional step of creating separate route sheets every single day. Both GECAC and Hamot routes have begun using the new format.

To make the change, the orientation is now sideways. The print, though, is larger than it used to be.

We really appreciate your understanding and are always open to your feedback.

NOTE: For privacy purposes, client phone numbers have been omitted.

WE ARE
Meals On Wheels
So no senior goes hungry™

We're on the Web!

See us at:

MealsOnWheelsErie.org

Where To From Here?

This segment will feature upcoming changes and ideas to help move MEMOW forward.

The words "waiting list" should never be part of our language!

We need more volunteers to deliver new routes! To attract new volunteers we need to make routes deliverable in one hour (especially for corporate teams who deliver over their lunch hour).

Some long GECAC routes need to be split in two. For volunteers who wish to continue delivering their regular, longer route they can take the two routes that

previously made up the original route. Just be aware that as we add clients to the two separate routes, the original route will grow, too!

This must all be done with utmost care. Changes to routes affect the volunteers, the kitchen, the number of coolers we have, the amount of space we use, etc.

On a different note, MEMOW is talking with GECAC to possibly deliver meals to pick-up sites other than 8th and Peach. This would have numerous positive benefits we can go into once we hammer out some logistics.