

## History

Northeast Dinner Bell Inc. was started in the parking lot of Trinity United Methodist Church in July of 1973. Dinner Bell was incorporated on March 19, 1974. The volunteers removed the heated meals from a delivery vehicle to their cars and delivered them to homebound neighbors. As the program grew the organization rented office space from Trinity church where they remain housed today, thirty-eight years later.

Our non profit meal delivery service provides meals to people who are unable to shop and prepare adequate meals for themselves on a regular basis. Some recipients are elderly and some are mentally or physically challenged. For some recipients we become a temporary service as they recuperate from an injury or a hospital stay. For some others it will probably be their source of nutrition as long as they remain in their homes. Many times our service enables the elderly to maintain their autonomy and their independent living status. A typical meal recipient is in their 80s, widowed and living in their own home. Our daily visit provides security to their families who know that the volunteer driver will be checking in on their loved one each day and will report anything unusual or amiss. Unfortunately sometimes the meal delivery driver is the only human that the recipient will see all day.

At one time the program expanded to serve more than two hundred meals a day divided into 14 routes but presently serves between 110-140 meals per day with 11 routes. This translates into more than 250 volunteer drivers per average month. Originally the program was a faith-based operation and the routes were staffed with volunteer drivers recruited by church coordinators. Today nearly 2/3 of the volunteer hours are filled by volunteers recruited from area businesses, community based civic groups and individual volunteers.

Meals on Wheels programs are funded from a variety of sources. In many cases insurance programs pay for the meals. In our program more than half of our meal recipients donate money for their meals. Others who meet certain criteria are subsidized by local and federal government. However the income from these sources does not nearly cover the expenses of our program. We rely mainly on contributions from area businesses, churches, social service groups, memorials, fundraising activities and generous individuals.

## Mission Statement

Delivering nutritious meals to homebound persons in Northeast Minneapolis and St Anthony Village.

## Volunteers

### Participating Businesses

Castle Builders, Graco Inc, Industrial Electric Company, UCare, Xcel

### Participating Church Groups

Elim Baptist, Faith United Methodist, Grace United Methodist, Gustavus Adolphus, Mount Carmel Lutheran, Nativity Lutheran, St Charles Borromeo, Trinity United Methodist, Gloria Dei Lutheran

### Participating Organizations

Catholic Eldercare, Community Involvement Program, Eastside Exchange, NE Kiwanis, NE Lions Club, Project Return Alternative School, St Anthony Kiwanis, Soo Line Veterans

### Northeast Dinner Bell

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NE Minneapolis,  
MN 5541

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www.nemealsonwheels.org - Website

Print Grants From:  
ALLEGRA Print and Imaging  
FootPrint Fund

## Service Area

Northeast Dinner Bell serves homebound people in all of Northeast Minneapolis and the Hennepin County parts of St Anthony Village.

### These are the boundaries:

North: 37th Avenue NE  
South: Mississippi River, Central & East Hennepin  
East: Highway 88 & Highcrest Road (including parts of St. Anthony Village)  
West: Mississippi River

Dinner Bell services are available to all older and eligible persons without regard to race, color, creed, religion, national origin or gener. Upon request this information will be made available in an alternative format such as braille, large print or audiotape. Minnesota Relay Services may be reached by dialing 1-800-627-3529. Funds under contract with the Metropolitan Area Agency on Aging, Inc. as part of the Older Americans Act Program.

Annual Report

2010



Northeast Dinner Bell



## Snapshots



Designed by MICHAEL REGUA

## Message From The Executive Director

The primary mission of Northeast Dinner Bell is helping our homebound neighbors remain healthy. We are proud that our meal delivery service is an important component in their ability to remain independent in the comfort of their own home. The single greatest barrier to achieving and sustaining better health for our homebound neighbors is their consistent access to healthy nutritional meals. Northeast Dinner Bell, Inc. not only provides meals to our clients but also much needed and appreciated personal contact. Our support structure promotes and enhances behaviors and lifestyles that advance long-term health. The single greatest barrier for Dinner Bell to providing those meals and services is insufficient funding. It is troubling to witness the funding challenges for Meals on Wheels programs. The combination of an ever growing senior population needing meals and less government funding creates a very difficult problem for programs such as Northeast Dinner Bell. Each year we are forced to ask for more and more contributions from our local service groups, churches, individuals, and businesses in order to keep providing our meal delivery service.

Over the past three years Northeast Dinner Bell has experienced a major economic loss to our program. We have not recovered since the first permanent funding cut and we expect more permanent funding cuts in 2011. Please help us by contacting your government representatives and telling them how much our homebound community depends on our daily visit with a meal and a smile. With less government funding we really do rely on your financial and volunteer help more and more each year to keep our doors open.

As you have witnessed elsewhere in this annual report we have very generous and compassionate people from the Northeast and St. Anthony Village communities involved with our Meals on Wheels Organization. Northeast Dinner Bell is grateful to all volunteer drivers, staff, local businesses and members of the board for their generous financial support and altruistic volunteer service in 2010. Your help allows us to continue our important and vital role in Northeast Minneapolis and St. Anthony Village.

## Donors

Please refer to our website at <http://nemealsonwheels.wordpress.com/how-to-give/our-donors> for a list of our current donors.

"I appreciate your service the LORD BLESS YOU ALL!" David C.

### Board of Directors

Holly LaRochelle - President  
 Kristine Hieb - Vice President  
 David Mathias - Treasurer  
 Lacy Larson - Secretary

Gary Braley, Anna Buelow, Steve Dunn,  
 Dawn Malcolm, Ryan Mellema,  
 Tim Mezzenga, Reanne Viken

### Staff

Eileen Hafften - Executive Director  
 Ardie Morrissette - Administrative Assistant  
 Jeffrey Aronen - Meal Coordinator  
 Susan Peterson - SCSEP Intern

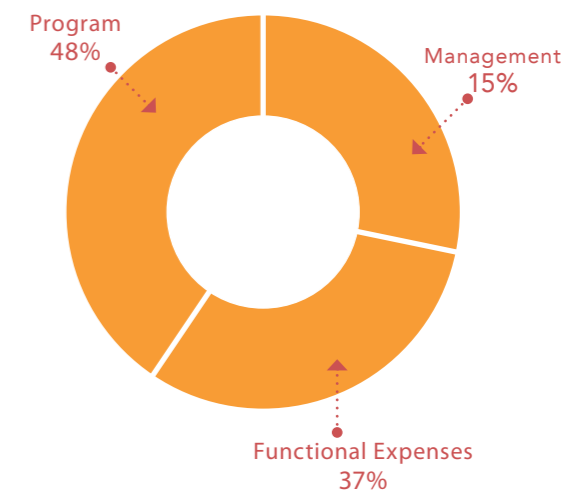
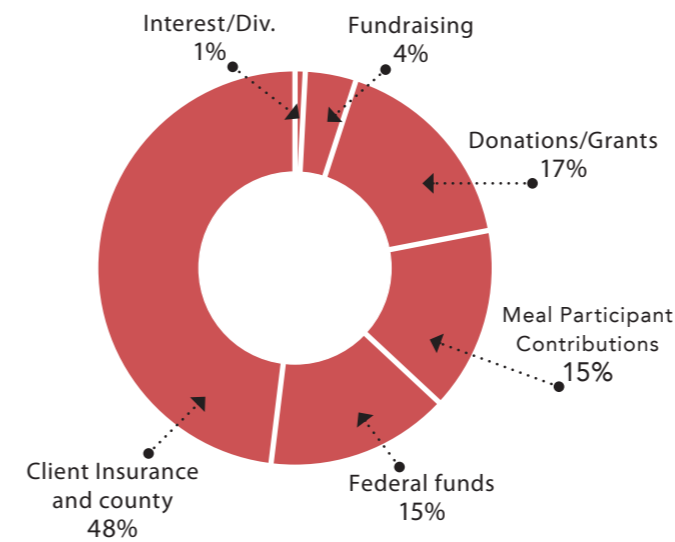
"Your volunteers are always so pleasant and patient with me." Barbara O.

## Reflections

"I recall fondly my experience with delivering Meals On Wheels to one particular recipient that I delivered to every Thursday for 5 years. Shortly after we got to know each other a little more, Lili asked me if I would like to sit down and talk. This turned into weekly conversations that ranged from her telling me stories about her upbringing in Latvia, surviving the war and immigrating to the United States. She was really more interested in hearing about myself, wife, kids, and later my grandchildren. We would even exchange Christmas and birthday presents. I always felt better after leaving her house, even though it was cutting into my work lunchtime, because she was an inspiration to me to be upbeat about life in general regardless of what things may go wrong. Lili was an especially kind, caring woman that would never have a negative comment about anyone, or complain about anything despite how her health was declining. I only hope I can live the rest of my life with the attitude she had. She was lucky to have a daughter and son-in-law living close by to help her stay in her home. I was very surprised when I found out her age since she was quite spry. She just recently passed away at the age of 103!" - anonymous

## Statement of Activities

Revenue		Expenses	
\$103,755.00	Client Insurance and county	\$110,542.00	Program
\$37,448.00	Donations/Grants	\$85,209.00	Functional Expenses
\$34,558.00	Meal Participant Contributions	\$34,544.00	Management
\$33,803.00	Federal funds		
\$8,596.00	Fundraising	\$230,295.00	TOTAL EXPENSE
\$2,115.00	Interest/Div.		
<b>\$220,275.00</b>	<b>REVENUE TOTAL</b>		



## Statement of Financial Activities

Assets		Liabilities and Equity	
\$ 94,532.54	Cash and Equivalents	\$2,693.71	Liabilities
\$29,839.72	Investments	\$121,678.55	Equity
<b>\$124,372.26</b>	<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$124,372.26</b>	<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>

## Petcare Program

We know the close bond our clients have with their companion pets. Meals on Wheels and Banfield Pet Hospitals have partnered on a national level to provide the W.A.L.O.P Program. The W.A.L.O.P. Program serves our elderly clients and neighbors who are unable to supply their companion pets with food or health wellness checks. With grants from Banfield Charitable Trust and pet food and other supplies donated by Banfield customers we are able to deliver companion pet care to the community. This program and service is one more step we take to enable our isolated clients to remain independent and in their own homes which is exactly where they want to be.



## Client Age Ranges

60 & under	49 people	60-69	20%	60 & under	25%
60-69	38 people	70-79	21%	80-89	11%
70-79	39 people	80-89	23%	90-100	11%
80-89	44 people	all	190 people		
90-100	21 people				

"Thank everyone please and let them know that every single bit of this caring program is scrumptious." Carrie E.