MEALS on WHEELS
SOLANO COUNTY

2025-26 ANNUAL REPORT

A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

When I look back on the past year at Meals on Wheels Solano County, I am struck by two things: how much has changed and how constant our purpose remains.

Every day, older adults throughout Solano County count on us for nutritious meals, a friendly visit, and the reassurance that someone is looking out for them. For many, that knock on the door means far more than the meal being delivered. It means connection, independence, and the ability to remain safely at home.

This year brought both progress and challenges. We continued to grow into our new home and commercial kitchen, strengthened programs that support older adults beyond nutrition, expanded community partnerships, and looked for new and sustainable ways to serve our community.

At the same time, the need continues to outpace available resources. Our waiting list is a daily reminder that there are older adults in Solano County who need our help and are still waiting for it. For someone who can no longer safely shop or prepare meals, waiting is not simply an inconvenience. It can mean going without adequate food, relying on others who may already be stretched thin, or making difficult choices between groceries and other basic needs.

That reality keeps us focused on what comes next.

As we move toward our 50th anniversary in 2027, we have an extraordinary opportunity to reflect on how far this organization has come since beginning in Vallejo in 1977 and more importantly, to consider what the next 50 years should look like.

Our goal is not simply to deliver more meals. It is to build the capacity and resources necessary to reach more older adults, strengthen the services that help them remain independent, and ensure that Meals on Wheels Solano County is here for generations to come.

None of this happens because of one person or one program. It happens because of an incredible team of staff and volunteers, a committed Board of Directors, generous donors and funders, and community partners who believe that older adults deserve to age with dignity and connection.

To everyone who delivered a meal, made a gift, volunteered your time, opened a door, shared our story, or partnered with us this year: thank you.

I am incredibly proud of what we accomplished together this year and even more excited about where we are headed.

With gratitude,

Laurie Hartmann
Executive Director



Your support means the world!

MEALS on WHEELS SOLANO COUNTY

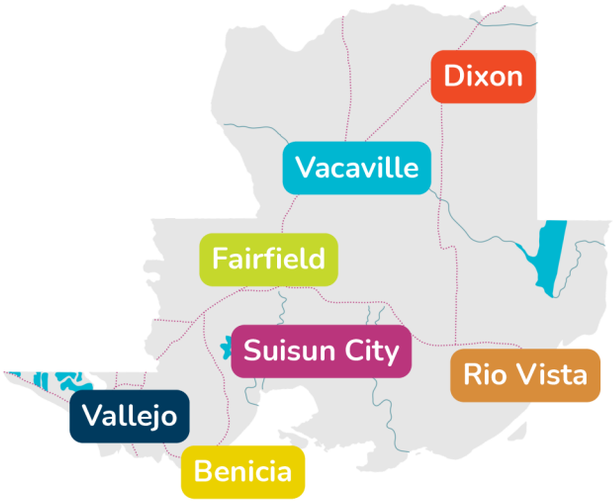
WHO WE SERVE — BY THE NUMBERS

A snapshot of the neighbors we serve—primarily homebound older adults, many living alone or on limited incomes, across Solano County's diverse communities.

1350+
seniors were served
across all programs & services

32%
of the seniors we serve
live at home alone

37%
of the seniors we serve
live below federal poverty line



WHERE OUR CLIENTS LIVE

- 33% Vallejo
- 26% Fairfield
- 20% Vacaville
- 8% Suisun
- 5% Dixon
- 4% Rio Vista
- 3% Benicia

Approximately 10%
of clients live in rural areas



- 8% 60-64 y/o
- 14% 65-69 y/o
- 20% 70-74 y/o
- 17% 75-79 y/o
- 17% 80-84 y/o
- 24% 85+ y/o



- 36% White
- 23% Black
- 12% APIDA
- 11% Hispanic/Latino
- 1% AI/AN
- 18% Missing/Decl.

52% FEMALE **41% MALE**

Roughly 1%
of clients identify as LGBTQIA+

About 6% of clients
are military spouses

Over 8% of clients
are military veterans

9 of our clients
are over 100 years old!

MEALS on WHEELS SOLANO COUNTY

OUR MEAL SERVICE HIGHLIGHTS

Our impact is made possible by the dedication of our staff, volunteers, donors, and community partners. Together, we are helping older adults throughout Solano County live healthier, more independent lives.

169,966 TOTAL MEALS SERVED ACROSS SOLANO COUNTY

HOME-DELIVERED MEALS

Our Home-Delivered Meals Program helps older adults remain healthy and independent at home through nutritious meals, personal connection, and vital wellness checks. This year, **37 daily routes** delivered **169,966 meals** to **1,042 older adults** across Solano County.



2,144 EMERGENCY MEALS DELIVERED

We distributed **2,144 emergency meal packs,** each containing five shelf-stable meals, to help ensure clients had access to food during emergencies and other hardships.

In partnership with the Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano, we delivered **6,288 MealPlus (+) bags**—more than **25,000 pounds** of fresh produce and shelf-stable food—to clients experiencing high food insecurity who were able to prepare additional meals at home.



25,000 LBS OF SUPPLEMENTAL FOOD DELIVERED

MEALS on WHEELS SOLANO COUNTY

OUR PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Looking ahead, we remain focused on expanding our impact through stronger partnerships, enhanced programs, and responsive services that meet the growing needs of older adults across Solano County.

PAWS PROGRAM

Our PAWS Program helps clients care for their beloved companions without sacrificing their own nutritional needs. This year, PAWS supported **197 clients** and **294 pets,** distributing **2,372 bags of pet food** and **943 doses of flea medication** while helping reduce isolation and support aging in place.

9,600

LBS OF PET FOOD PROVIDED





FALL PREVENTION PROGRAM

Our Fall Prevention Program helps older adults stay safe and independent at home. This year, **155 clients** received **796 assistive devices and home modifications** tailored to their individual needs. Within 90 days, clients reported a **99% reduction in falls** and **98% reductions in both 911 calls and fall-related ER visits**—helping prevent injuries, reduce emergency care, and preserve independence.

790+

ASSISTIVE DEVICES & HOME MODIFICATIONS PROVIDED

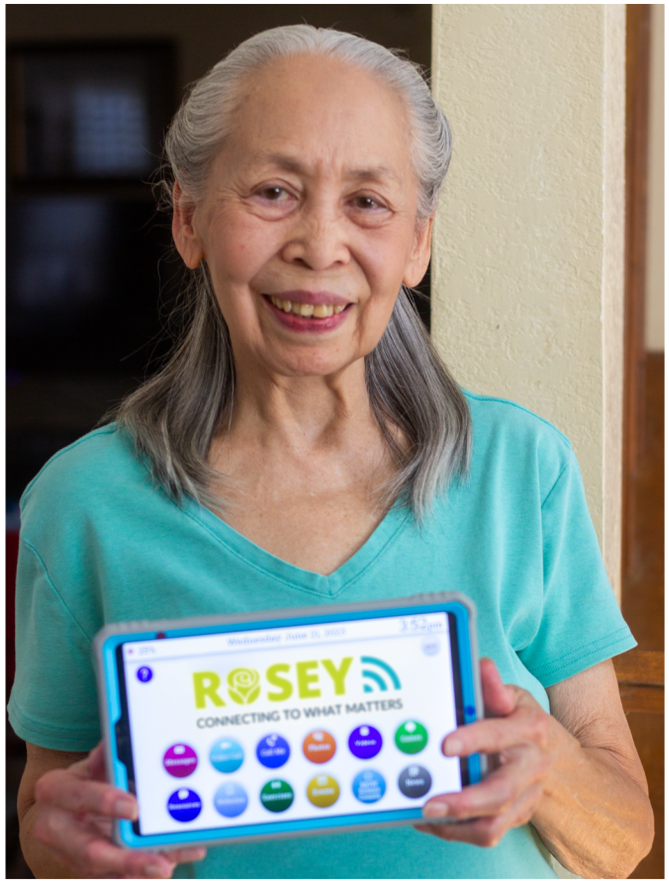
THE IMPACT OF THE ROSEY PROGRAM

For years, our Rosey Tablet Program helped older adults across Solano County stay connected, engaged, and independent through technology. By providing companion tablets, personalized training, and ongoing technical support, Rosey opened new doors for seniors to connect with loved ones, explore their interests, and engage with the world around them.

Throughout the life of the program, **448 older adults participated,** collectively spending more than **33.8 million minutes** engaging with technology through **games, applications, videos, virtual activities, and more.** Beyond the numbers, Rosey demonstrated how technology can help bridge the gap of social isolation, offering opportunities for connection, entertainment, and enrichment.

In June 2026, the Rosey program concluded following the expiration of its grant funding. While we are saddened to close this chapter, its impact and the lessons learned will continue to inform our efforts to address loneliness and isolation among older adults.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the participants, partners, and supporters who made Rosey possible. Together, we explored new ways to support healthy aging and helped hundreds of seniors discover a more connected world.



21.6 million minutes using web & apps

448 older adults served

384 minutes of video calling

120,722 minutes watching videos & exercising

11.1 million minutes playing brain games

33.8 million minutes of engagement

64,458 minutes in virtual events

MEALS on WHEELS SOLANO COUNTY

ACHIEVEMENTS & ACCOLADES

Beyond daily meals, we provided fans, seasonal cards, and winter essentials to bring comfort and connection to older adults throughout the year.



170+
FANS DELIVERED



3200+
CARDS SIGNED



2800+
WINTER ITEMS GIFTED



AND SO MUCH MORE!

VOLUNTEER HIGHLIGHTS

Every meal and connection is made possible by our dedicated volunteers, whose generosity strengthens our community and provides a vital lifeline for the older adults we serve.

274
Volunteers

7,863
Hours Dedicated

44,592
Miles Driven



VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

"Whenever there is a need, Dean is always one of the first to step up. No matter the day, location, or distance, he is willing to go the extra mile to ensure our clients receive their meals. Every delivery day, he checks in to see where he is needed and how he can help. His generosity, reliability, and infectious positivity uplift everyone around him, making him an invaluable part of our team."

- Anthony Lim, Volunteer Coordinator

TESTIMONIES TO THE WORK WE DO



MEET ELSIE

Fairfield Client

At 98 years old, Elsie values the independence and connection Meals on Wheels brings to her life. For nearly 10 years, she has been able to count on nutritious meals arriving at her door — without having to worry about what to prepare or make decisions about meals each day. But for Elsie, the visits mean just as much as the food. “I have somebody to talk to each time, which I wouldn’t have otherwise,” she said. Over the years, familiar volunteers have become friends she looks forward to seeing, and she misses their conversations when they aren’t there. Grateful for the support she receives, Elsie has also donated to Meals on Wheels every month throughout her time as a client — giving back to the program that helps her remain independent and connected.

MEET SANDIE

Client Family Member

For Sandie, Meals on Wheels provides reassurance that her mother, Elsie, can continue living independently. Sandie describes her mother as her “rock,” and watching her lose the ability to drive and do some of the things she once enjoyed has been difficult for the family. Meals on Wheels has helped provide stability through those changes. “Meals on Wheels has helped her maintain her independence because she knows that a meal is coming,” Sandie said. Beyond knowing her mother has nutritious food, Sandie values the companionship and connection that come with each delivery. The familiar volunteers give Elsie someone to talk to and look forward to, while giving Sandie and her family peace of mind knowing she has support and connection at home.



TESTIMONIES TO THE WORK WE DO



MEET GERRIE & DENNIS

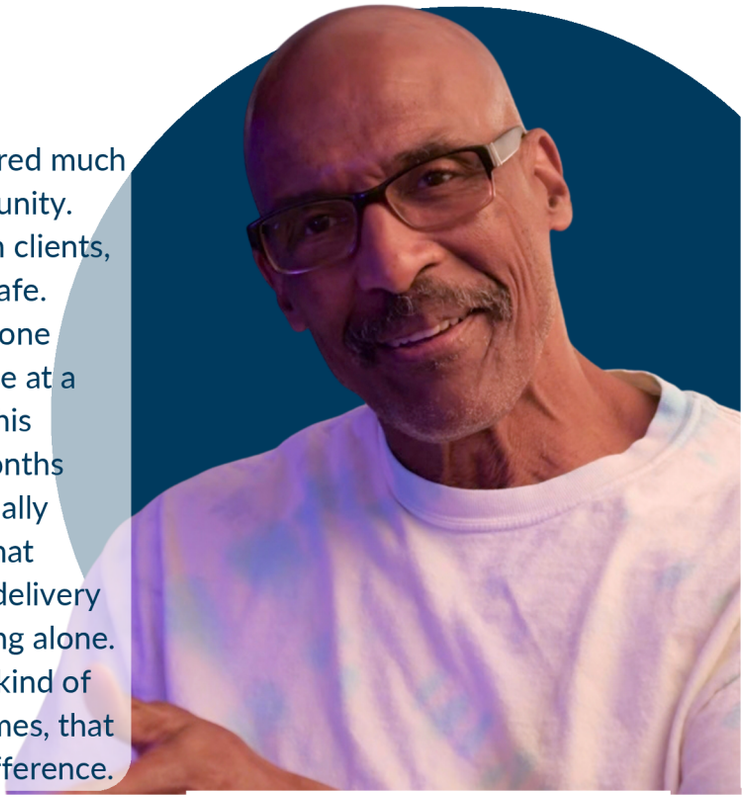
MOWSC Volunteers

For more than 10 years, Gerrie and Dennis have volunteered delivering meals. “You really build a family,” they shared. Their experiences have been joyful, heartbreaking, and always rewarding, including meeting a couple who had waited so long for assistance that they had eaten only three days that week. When their meals finally arrived, the woman began to cry with gratitude. Moments like that have shown Gerrie and Dennis just how important the program can be. For seniors who may otherwise have little food or social interaction, each delivery provides nourishment, conversation, and the reassurance that someone is there and cares. After more than a decade of volunteering, they have seen firsthand why Meals on Wheels is truly about more than a meal.

MEET SYLVESTER

MOWSC Fleet Manager

For more than 12 years, Sylvester has delivered much more than meals to older adults in his community. His visits are also an opportunity to check on clients, build relationships, and make sure they are safe. That responsibility became lifesaving during one delivery when Sylvester received no response at a client’s door. He found him unresponsive in his wheelchair and immediately sought help. Months later, the client told him, “Sylvester, you actually saved my life.” The experience reinforced what Sylvester already knew: a Meals on Wheels delivery can be a critical connection for someone living alone. “We really are checking up and seeing what kind of condition the clients are in,” he said. Sometimes, that simple knock at the door can make all the difference.



THANK YOU TO OUR TOP SUPPORTERS

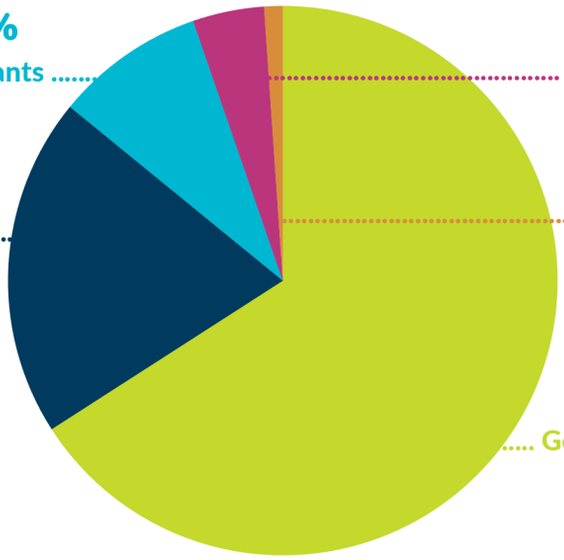
We are deeply grateful to the thousands of other donors not listed here who have made generous and thoughtful gifts to MOWSC during this past fiscal year. A special thank you to the donors who gifted $1,000 or more between July 1, 2025 and June 30, 2026. To respect their privacy, we have eliminated gift levels from our annual report.

- Ambassadors of Music
- Curt Anderson
- Robert Armijo
- Ernesto P. Barbara
- Jim Barnes
- Amy & Mitch Bassignani
- Joann A. Beath
- Michael D. Burns
- William & Tracy Burrage
- Chevron
- Comcast Cable Communications Inc.
- Mary & Robert Cretti
- Sylvia & Larry Crowder
- Kay B. Deane
- Mina Diaz
- Robert & Dorthy Doss
- Cormac Downey
- Donna Ebert
- Francelia Eldridge
- Fairfield Host Lions Comm SVC FDN Inc.
- Fairfield Suisun Rotary Club Foundation
- Ross Family
- Fleet Feet Vacaville
- Food Bank of Contra Costa & Solano County
- Patrica Ann Davis Fortier
- Joanne Goheen
- Ana Martel & Ricardo Gonzales
- Glenda & Ted Goode
- Joan E. Gorrell
- Laura A. Hewett
- Katherine A. Hoffman
- Honn Co. Inc.
- Kaiser Foundation Health Plan Inc.
- Kristina Kaunzinger
- David & Nadia Van Kirk
- Evelyn Kraski
- Lonza Group
- Vicki & Richard Maples
- Connie L. Mauldin
- Lorie L. Mazzaroppi
- Meals on Wheels of America
- Susan Mecca
- Ronald & Simone Newman
- Northern Solano Lodge #2534 OSDIA
- James & Cynthia Oliver
- Kevin & Beatrice Olsen
- John & Kimberly Peete
- Curtis & Krista Perata
- California Department of Corrections & Rehabilitation
- Everret & Jean Riehel
- Phyllis & Chet Rogaski
- Christopher & Terry Ronco
- Frederick M. Schleich
- Wayne & Scottie Senalik
- Shell USA Company Foundation
- Albert G. Socorro
- Solano Turkey Trot Fund
- Soroptimist International of Central Solano County
- Ward R. Stewart
- Karin Sullivan
- Skip & Gail Thomson
- Alba F. Tiller
- Tomson Cabinetry
- United Methodist Women
- Vallejo Executive Lions
- Valley Strong Credit Union
- Norm & Joan Wallace
- Wednesday Club of Suisun
- Terrence West
- Kaye D. Whitney
- Walter J. Zaks

FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT FOR FY 25-26

Our financial stewardship ensures that every dollar is used wisely, maximizing the impact of our programs and sustaining our commitment to serving Solano County's seniors.

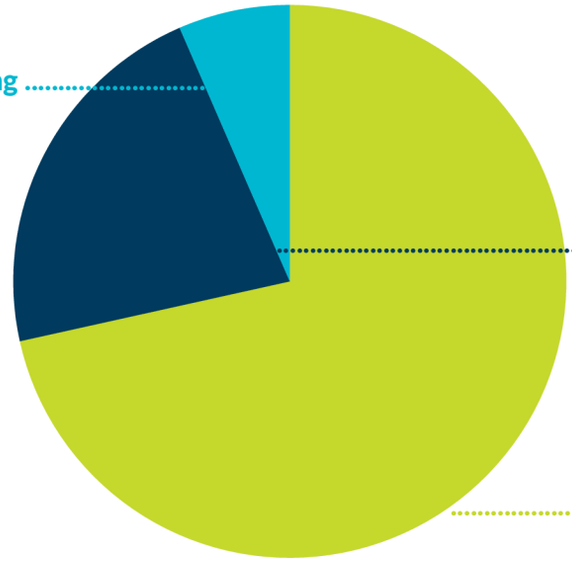
REVENUE AND SUPPORT



- $1,903,620.00 Gov Contracts
- $577,462.00 Donations
- $254,444.00 Grants
- $121,264.00 Other
- $31,491.00 Non-Gov Contracts

TOTAL INCOME: $2,888,281.00

EXPENDITURES



- $1,695,336.00 Programs
- $664,736.00 Administrative
- $109,096.00 Fundraising

TOTAL EXPENSES: $2,469,168.00

MEALS on WHEELS SOLANO COUNTY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