



Meals on Wheels 2021 Report

LIVE UNITED®

United Way Meals on Wheels experienced rapid growth in 2021 in response to increased requests for service during the COVID-19 pandemic, which caused many homebound seniors to be more isolated than ever. A decrease in volunteer support, also due to the pandemic, sparked innovative new ways to ensure that clients received uninterrupted deliveries of vital nutrition and safety checks. Response to the unprecedented need was fueled by support from our caring community and COVID-response funding.

426,298

meals were delivered in 2021. Of those, 365,731 were delivered to enrolled clients, and 60,567 stopgap meals went to seniors on our waiting list. In addition, groceries were provided to 271 seniors who reported being in extreme need.

1,722

homebound seniors in Jefferson County received weekly frozen meal deliveries and safety checks. Shifting to weekly delivery during the pandemic has been fundamental to limiting exposure to the coronavirus.

744

new clients were added to our roster through rapid enrollment in response to the pandemic.

329

amazing volunteers delivered meals and made calls to homebound seniors.

930

personal telephone calls were made by 124 volunteers to 465 isolated seniors to help combat loneliness and depression during the pandemic. Concerned volunteers were eager to help, and this was a safe, easy and very enriching way for them to do so.

21

Meals on Wheels clients were helped through our Senior Home Repair Program. Repairs and modifications were made to their homes, free of charge, to allow them to remain safe, healthy and independent in the place they most want to be.

The new **Meals on Wheels kitchen** opened in 2021 as part of a major new addition to United Way of Central Alabama's campus. The facility was used for assembly and volunteer pickup of weekly meals and stands ready for meal preparation with the return to daily delivery of hot meals in 2022. **205.592.0413 | www.mowjeffco.org**



Meals on Wheels of Central Alabama is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization launched by United Way of Central Alabama in 2016 to place priority on ensuring Jefferson County's fast-growing senior population has access to vital nutrition and connection to resources to maintain independence and quality of life.