



THE COMMUNITY Dish



ISSUE 1

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mobilemeals

Our Mission:
To help our clients remain independent and enhance their quality of life by delivering nutritious meals.



Client Spotlight

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Meet Ben and Joanne

Ben and Joanne are great examples of how the meal program can positively impact the lives of our clients. They are 84 and 86 years old and live independently in their own home.

The meals have been a significant help for them. Joanne mentioned that she doesn't always feel up to cooking, and having these meals reassures her that they are receiving healthy, convenient, and tasty food. Ben especially enjoys the vegetable soup prepared by our kitchen. This arrangement eases Joanne's burden of daily cooking, and it is essential for her, as she has diabetes and needs to eat on a schedule.

Both Ben and Joanne appreciate the volunteers who deliver their meals. Ben noted that the volunteers always ask how they are doing during each delivery, and when they don't see Joanne, they check on her well-being. They also offer to carry the bags inside and see if they need anything, providing exceptional service.

Additionally, they feel the same about the office team, who are caring and kind.



More than a Meal



CEO's Letter

I'm happy to introduce the first edition of *The Community Dish*, a newsletter dedicated to sharing stories and

updates from Mobile Meals of Toledo. As a trusted meal provider, we aim to highlight the vital work we do and the impact we have on those we serve.

Winter can be particularly challenging for older adults, with cold weather and isolation affecting their well-being. This newsletter reminds us of our role in providing support beyond meals.

As you read, consider how we can all contribute to making our community one where everyone feels nourished, supported, and valued. Thank you for being part of this caring community.

Alison Foreman, CEO Mobile Meals of Toledo

The Giving Plate

Monthly Donation Program
Supporting Mobile Meals



We're excited to introduce **The Giving Plate**, our monthly donation initiative to support Mobile Meals. By committing to a monthly donation, you play a crucial role in ensuring that older adults in need receive meals. Even a \$25 monthly contribution can provide a week's worth of meals for a homebound senior.

Your ongoing support allows us to consistently deliver nutritious meals and plan for the future. Once set up, you won't need to re-enter your payment details, and you can easily view, edit, or cancel your donation at any time.

Thank you for considering **The Giving Plate** and supporting Mobile Meals. **Your generosity makes a significant impact, one meal at a time!**

mobilemeals.org/donate



Mike began volunteering with Mobile Meals in 2013 while serving as the controller for the Fair Housing Center. He learned about the opportunity through United Way and helped by recording insurance payments.

Since retiring in 2022, he has taken on the role of delivering meals and assisting with fundraising events. He enjoys helping clients and recalls one time where he discovered a client in distress after taking a fall at home and needed emergency assistance.

Mike encourages others to get involved, stating, *"It feels good to know you're making a difference."*

If you're interested in becoming a volunteer like Mike, visit mobilemeals.org/volunteer to learn more.

From Our Kitchen



Happy New year to all! As it gets colder outside, the Mobile Meals kitchen is heating up. Our organization has seen significant growth in meal production in 2024 and has gotten off to a busy start in 2025, with a team of nine full-time and four part-time staff preparing around 1,200 meals daily.

This past year, we expanded our relationship with the Area Office on Aging, serving 1,200 lunches for the Senior Spring Fling and over 200 hot meals weekly for our Vistula Neighbors in Madonna Homes and Northgate Apartments. Last fall, we prepared 400 holiday meals for the Kinship Program, aiding grandparents raising grandchildren. We enjoy collaborating with the Area Office on Aging and look to expand our relationship in 2025.

Our kitchen prioritizes local sourcing for our food, working with Gordon Food Service for our general food needs, Toft Dairy for milk, and Nickles Bakery for bread. We welcomed our new produce partner, Premier Produce One, and added two family-owned distributors, Sun Valley and Cedar Crest Dairy, both out of Michigan. Johnson Fruit Farms also graciously donated over 18 bushels of fresh apples over the last year.

In addition to preparing our senior meals, we're gearing up for upcoming fundraising events, including producing our signature Peanut Butter Porter Pie for Pies & Pints on March 14th and delicious offerings for Sip, Sip HOORAY! in November.

Cheers from the Mobile Meals kitchen team!

Chef Linda, Kitchen Director



1,200 MEALS
PER DAY



1,500
BANANAS
EACH WEEK



4,000 PINTS
OF MILK
EACH WEEK



150 LBS
BEEF, CHICKEN, OR
PORK FOR APPROX.
700 MEALS

Welcome New Board Members

Erica and Sam Join Mobile Meals' Board in 2025

Erica Blake is a public relations leader at Bon Secours Mercy Health, leveraging her journalism background to craft engaging narratives. She enjoys running, scuba diving, and traveling.

Sam Sayed, a Toledo native and University of Toledo graduate, brings over 25 years of financial services experience at Signature Bank, specializing in investment management and financial planning. He is an active volunteer and a dedicated husband and father of four.



Erica Blake



Sam Sayed



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Join us for Pies & Pints mobilemeals.org/piesandpints



Join us for Pies & Pints on
March 14th from 4pm - 8pm.
This family-friendly Pi Day event
will take place at ALL THREE
Toledo Earnest Brew Works
locations, where you can enjoy

a wide variety of delicious pies, pizza from Vito's, and craft
beer, all while supporting a great cause.

\$10 gets a slice of pie or pizza and a beer or non-alcoholic
beverage. A 50/50 raffle will be held at each location.
Admission is free!

March 14, 2025 • Earnest Brew Works • 4pm - 8pm
South Toledo • Westgate • Downtown

