

Pike County Area Agency on Aging
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PIKE COUNTY MEAL PROGRAM JOINS IN MONTH-LONG MARCH FOR MEALS CELEBRATION WITH COMMUNITIES NATIONWIDE

SUPPORT WILL HELP TO FIGHT SENIOR HUNGER AND ISOLATION IN PIKE COUNTY

Lords Valley, PA March 1, 2020 - Pike County Home Delivered Meal Program announced today that it will be participating in the 18th annual March for Meals – a month-long, nationwide celebration of Meal on Wheels and our senior neighbors who rely on the vital service to remain health and independent at home. Home Delivered Meal Program’s celebration will include various activities throughout the month of March, including State, Local County, and township officials will be riding and delivering meals to local citizens who are on the program, along with assisting preparation of meals throughout our area.

We are always looking for Volunteers to help and get involved here at Pike County Area Agency on Aging. If you are willing to make a **donation**, to further the cause of the Pike County Home Delivered Meals, please contact us or go to our website **www.pikeaaa.org** and click on our **Donate** link. Our wish list for this program is an increase in donations and Volunteers who can give their time. For more information on how you can volunteer at Pike County Area Agency on Aging contact 570-775-5550 extension 1303, or via email: svanorden@pikepa.org.

“The services that we provide the seniors of Pike County are critical and the need is rapidly increasing,” said Robin S. Skibber, RD, LDN, Executive Director of Pike County Area Agency on Aging. “Together, we can keep seniors living independently, healthier at home and feeling more connected to their community as they age. It not only makes economic sense to enable seniors to stay healthy and safe at home, but it improves the health and vibrancy of our communities and our nation at large.”

About Home Delivered Meal Program of Pike County:

Our program consists of 11 routes that service ALL of Pike County. While delivering HDM’s (Home Delivered Meals) daily to our more than 140 seniors with the help of volunteer drivers, volunteers who come into the senior center kitchen, and assist with preparation of the meals that go out daily. The Volunteers are the heartbeat that helps keep this program alive. Our limited funding from lottery dollars and donations assist us with this program. In recent years due to increasing cost of this vital program, we have had to downsize our days of delivery to maintain the integrity of the food we serve. Our wish list for this program is an increase in donations and Volunteers.

The annual March for Meals celebration commemorates the historic day in March of 1972 when President Nixon signed into law a measure that amended the Older Americans Act of 1965 to include a national nutrition program for seniors 60 years and older. Since 2002, community-based Meals on Wheels programs from across the country have joined forces for the annual awareness campaign to celebrate this successful public-private partnership and garner the support needed to fill the gap between the seniors served and those still in need.

“The month of March is a fitting time to not only celebrate the successful history of Meals on Wheels, but also bring us together to support a solution that will strengthen communities into the future,” said Ellie Hollander, President and CEO of Meals on Wheels America. “With 12,000 Americans turning 60 each day, now is the time to invest in these vital programs so that we can provide every senior in need with the nutritious meals, friendly visits and safety checks that will enable them to live healthier and independent in their own homes.”

For more information on how you can volunteer, contribute or speak out for the seniors in Pike County this March, again visit www.pikeaaa.org.