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PRESCOTT MEALS ON WHEELS ANNOUNCES FACILITY EXPANSION TO MEET GROWING COMMUNITY NEED

The new building project aims to increase meal capacity, strengthen volunteer operations, and support the rising number of seniors in need across the Prescott area

[PRESCOTT, ARIZONA, May 20, 2026—] Prescott Meals on Wheels has announced plans for a major facility expansion designed to support the organization's rapidly growing demand for senior nutrition and wellness services throughout the Prescott community.

Founded in 1973, Prescott Meals on Wheels has served the region for more than five decades, delivering nutritious meals and wellness checks to older adults who rely on the organization to remain safe, healthy, and independent in their homes. What began as a small local initiative serving 10 clients has grown into a critical community resource delivering more than 100,000 meals annually.

In recent years, the need for services has increased significantly. Since 2022, annual meal delivery demand has grown from approximately 71,000 meals to more than 100,000 meals. During the same period, the number of clients served increased from approximately 375 seniors to more than 770 individuals.

As operational demand continues to rise, organization leaders say the current facility has reached its capacity.

"The need in our community has outgrown the space we currently have," said Gary Fretwell, Executive Director of Prescott Meals on Wheels. "This expansion is about more than adding square footage. It is about making sure no senior is left waiting for meals, support, or human connection."

The planned expansion will allow Prescott Meals on Wheels to:

- Increase kitchen and meal preparation capacity
- Improve food storage and operational efficiency
- Expand volunteer coordination and delivery logistics
- Enhance wellness check support services
- Improve accessibility for seniors, caregivers, and volunteers
- Prepare for future community growth and emergency response needs

The organization currently operates with the support of approximately 315 active volunteers alongside a staff of 15 employees. Together, they provide meal delivery services, wellness checks, and community support to vulnerable older adults across the region.

According to organization leadership, rising food costs, inflation, and increased financial strain on older adults living on fixed incomes have contributed to the growing demand for services.

“This project represents an investment in the long-term health and well-being of our community,” said Rich Ach. “Every meal delivered represents more than nutrition. It represents dignity, safety, and reassurance that someone cares.”

The expansion campaign will include opportunities for community partnerships, donor sponsorships, volunteer engagement, and public support. Prescott Meals on Wheels hopes the project will strengthen its ability to serve the community for decades to come while continuing its mission of helping seniors age safely and independently at home.

Community members interested in supporting the campaign or learning more about the organization’s services are encouraged to visit the Meals on Wheels America website or contact Prescott Meals on Wheels directly.

About Prescott Meals on Wheels

Founded in 1973, Prescott Meals on Wheels provides nutritious meal delivery, wellness checks, and community support services to older adults throughout the Prescott area. Through the dedication of volunteers, donors, staff, and community partners, the organization helps seniors maintain dignity, independence, and connection while aging safely at home.

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