14 was a big year for Meals on Wheels of Albuquerque. Not only did we usher in new leadership, but our clients faced a slew of challenges that affected their ability to obtain proper nutrition and well-balanced meals.

A MESSAGE FROM

SHAUNA AND BYRL

Last year, the federal government cut funding from the national food stamp program, and New Mexico in particular has been suffering from a backlog of these applications, delaying low income citizens from obtaining food benefits. In addition, the number of seniors who are going hungry in New Mexico continues to rise, due in part to the economic downturn and high unemployment that many have yet to recover from.

Despite these potential setbacks, 2014 was a record year for us. Because of our hardworking staff and the generosity of our supporters, we overcame these difficulties, expanding our programs and setting new benchmarks for funding and number of clients served.

We have expanded our Low Income Food and Enrichment program (LIFE) by 11%, enrolling more clients and doing our part to mitigate hunger and food insecurity in Albuquerque and the surrounding areas. We have also surpassed the number of meals served from last year, preparing and delivering over 120,000 highly-nutritious meals to homebound clients who are suffering from medical illness.

However, there is still much work to be done. It is only through the compassion of others that we will continue to meet the growing demands of our clients and do our part to reduce hunger among our city’s most vulnerable.

Sincerely,

Shauna Kessler
Executive Director

Ellen Byrl Moore
Board President
2014 has proven to be a record-setting year.

- **120,300**
  Prepared and delivered a total of 120,000 medically-tailored, nutritious meals to over 500 homebound clients in Albuquerque and the surrounding areas.

- **29,300**
  Prepared and delivered 29,300 free or subsidized, medically-tailored, nutritious meals to 138 low income, sick, and homebound people living in Albuquerque and the surrounding areas.

- **32,000**
  Prepared and delivered 32,000 medically-tailored, nutritious meals to 156 homebound, elderly clients as part of PACE Senior Care in Albuquerque.

- **14,000**
  Prepared and delivered 14,000 medically-tailored, nutritious meals to 19 veterans through Metropolitan Homelessness Project in Albuquerque.

Number of Low Income clients who say Meals on Wheels allows them to continue to live at home: **100%**

Number of Low Income clients who say Meals on Wheels improves their quality of life: **98%**

Number of Low Income clients who say Meals on Wheels gives them more independence: **97%**
Teri is a friendly and compassionate client who has received our services since 2010. When Teri first came to Meals on Wheels, she had been through multiple surgeries and was near death. She needed a special diet due to health concerns. Meals on Wheels of Albuquerque allows her to remain in her home and receive the healthy nutrition she needs to maintain her health.

Teri also has a pet cat and through our Love on a Leash pet program, she is receiving free food for her cat as well.

She tells us that “our staff knows the ins and outs of people’s hearts so well.” She says that Albuquerque is lucky to have Meals on Wheels here, and that she is lucky too!

Thomas was having difficulty cooking for himself, so he is grateful for the extra meals provided by Meals on Wheels of Albuquerque. He especially likes the turkey chili dish and tries to eat only whole grains or whole grain breads. He watches his portions and just recently was declared diabetes free!

Thomas has a great sense of humor and likes to tell jokes. He teases his dog Lexi, wrestling with her to keep her active, and pretends to steal her favorite stuffed toy. She is the delight of his life and receives food from our Love on a Leash program as well.

Georgiana happily welcomes our volunteers into her home, which was built by her husband in 1957. She has a quiet dignity and warmth about her. As a widow, Georgiana relies on her only daughter in the area; however her daughter works full time and is not available every day. This is where Meals on Wheels of Albuquerque has stepped in. Georgiana has been receiving meals each day from us for the past three years. She looks forward to seeing our volunteers each day. “They’re all very special to me,” she says.
Charlie is 92 years young. He’s been enjoying Meals on Wheels of Albuquerque’s hot meals for three months and wishes he had heard about our program sooner. He likes that our meals are freshly prepared by fully-trained chefs and personally delivered to clients’ homes. Because of some recent health challenges, which have made him unsteady on his feet, Charlie values the kindness of the volunteers who bring him his meals daily. Meals on Wheels of Albuquerque allows him to remain in his home—a home that he built himself 55 years ago—and receive healthy, life-sustaining meals.

Charlie claims that his longevity is owed to a good breakfast and eating well-balanced meals like the ones he gets from Meals on Wheels of Albuquerque. He is grateful for our services and considers himself to be “the luckiest homegrown farm boy in the Southwest!”

Josie is 90 years young. She began receiving meals about four years ago after moving from Las Vegas, NM to be with her son in Albuquerque. Our meals have helped her to streamline and simplify her life. She thinks the meals are well-balanced and very tasty.

Josie is originally from a little town called Ledoux in Mora County, New Mexico where she received her education. Growing up, she and her sister were in choir. She still loves to sing Christmas carols.

Her fiancé worked for the Union Pacific Railroad when they met, and after marriage, she began her preparations to move to Cheyenne, Wyoming. Josie was not an ordinary stay-at-home housewife; she worked as the maître d’ at a major restaurant and hotel in Cheyenne where many Senators and VIPs frequented.

Josie owes her longevity to an active lifestyle, keeping in touch with loved ones, eating balanced meals like the ones she receives from Meals on Wheels of Albuquerque, and having lively conversations with our volunteers who brighten her days with smiles and friendly visits. We think you brighten their days as well, Josie!

Betty decided to start receiving meals from our organization as a way to simplify her life and achieve greater independence. Meals on Wheels of Albuquerque allows her to stay in her home and not rely on others.

When visiting Betty’s home, you can’t help but notice the numerous landscape paintings hanging throughout her house. As a self-taught artist, she paints and creates greeting cards in her spare time.

Betty spent her teenage years in Los Alamos and is featured in the book entitled “The Children of Los Alamos” by Katrina Mason. She won an award for a poem she wrote as a teenager with the same title. Betty owes her longevity and alertness to keeping as active as possible both in body and mind, as well as eating well-balanced meals like the ones provided to her by Meals on Wheels of Albuquerque.

We feel honored to be invited into Betty’s home and share her exceptional story.
2015

LOOKING FORWARD

A New Year brings NEW challenges and NEW opportunities!

DATA COLLECTION

We have been chosen to participate in a data collection pilot program for Meals on Wheels of America. We are one of only 22 agencies across the country to be invited to participate. This pilot program will collect client and program data on various MoW programs as well as feedback on collection and evaluation techniques. Eventually, this pilot program will result in a new, nationwide data collection system for Meals on Wheels of America as well as comparison data across the country for MOW programs—something that was never available before.

MISSION UPDATE

In January of 2015, the Board of Directors voted to amend our mission to more accurately reflect all of our services. Our new mission: “Nourishing bodies and spirits with balanced meals and friendship.”

HUNGER CATALYST

The United Way Hunger Relief Catalyst is over, but we have decided to continue the partnership between the hunger relief groups and have formed a city wide Hunger Relief Council. Our vision is to share best practices across multiple agencies as well as come together to tackle issues we, as hunger agencies, all face. One of the first things we will be working on is the potential for a citywide registration system for relief agencies, so we can better track who uses what programs (many people often use multiple hunger programs simultaneously).
INDIVIDUAL 2500 +
Elizabeth Skerry
Kenneth Kinlaw
Ken Hand
Linda & William Scott

INDIVIDUAL 1001 - 2500
Bernadette F. Martinez
Bryan S. Davis
C.R. & Barbara Caldwell
Eugene L. & Carol A. Venturini
Frances A. Neil
Francisco Ampuero
Greg & Devon Frost, Sr.
I. B. Hoover, Jr.
Larry Pottinger
Martha Gerlach
Paul & Beth Hommert
Richard & Virginia Feddersen

INDIVIDUAL 501 - 1000
Cathy Weidle
Conrad & Mary Strohacker
Diana G. Koski
James Perotti
Jim & Betty A. Hutchinson
Jimmy & Nadine Daskalos
Louise M. Mulcock
Marcus Mims
Mary M. Smith
Nancy M. Berg
Nathan N. & Julie M. Koontz
Pat Sloan
Rachel Shaw
Samuel & Andrea Brandt
Sue M. O’Neill
Theresa M. Wheeler, DVM PC
Victor D. Burnworth, Jr.
Warren & Carol Siemens

INDIVIDUAL 251 - 500
Alex Martin & Annam Manthiram
Anne Nokes
Beverly Peterson
Brandon Smith
Brian Stephenson
Bruce Walker
Carrie Wells
David K. & Ellen Byrl Moore
Deborah Black
Dianne Paiko
Donald E. Amos
Elzie Cuzzort
Ervin John Pierucci
Frank & Phyllis Elkin
Gary D. Doll
Gary Jacobs
Gloria B. Hawk
Janice E. & Sanford E. Oelberg
Jennifer Silva
Jim & Ellen King
Jim and Catherine Scali
Jim Noone
Joan Punt
JoAnn Albrecht
John & Holly Woelber
John A. & Carol L. Simmons
Martha E. Grey
Mary Wiederholt
Monika Parker
Mr. James Eaton
Ms. Jennifer Luckey
Nancy Croker
Patricia R. Moses
Regina & Mark Guest-Rupert
Renee M. & Scott J. Hoover
Richard R. Prairie
Rita Martinez
Roland J. & Samantha Blauwkamp
Ronald & Nelmah D. Syler
Shauna M. Kessler
Shawn Stuart
Sheryl Sellaway
Shirley Xiu-Li Shen
Susan Shipley
Theresa Vigil

BUSINESSES $250 +
Advantage Communications
Anesthesia Associates of NM, P.C.
Bank of Albuquerque
Bank of America
BenefitSource
Bolton, Inc.
Broken Arrow Communications
Century Bank
Chili’s
Custom Grading
Dion’s
Don Chalmers Ford
Enchantment Pet Resort & Spa
ExxonMobil Foundation
Frost Mortgage
Home Instead Senior Care
L&P Building Supply
Lutheran Community Foundation
National Electric Supply
Parnall Law
Presbyterian Healthcare Services
Prudential New Mexico Properties
Recarnation
Sandia Laboratory Federal Credit Union
Sandia National Laboratories/Lockheed Martin
Seattle Fish Company of NM
Southwest Reinsure, Inc.
Steve Kunkle Insurance
Twohig Dentistry
U.S. New Mexico Federal Credit Union
Ultramain Systems, Inc
Walmart
Wells Fargo

FOUNDATIONS & ORGANIZATIONS S250 +
Akerson Family Foundation
Albuquerque Community Foundation
Banfield Charitable Trust
California Community Foundation
Community Health Charities of the West
Community Health Charities of N.M.
Duke City Bridge Club
M.S. Doss Foundation
MOW Association of America
PNM Resources, Inc.
Rotary Del Norte Foundation
Sandia/Woodward Foundation
United Way of Central NM

CHURCHES S250 +
Asbury United Methodist Church
Faith Lutheran Church
First Presbyterian Church
Sandia Presbyterian Church
St. Chad’s Episcopal Church
St. Luke Lutheran Church

IN KIND
ABQ Olive Oil Company
Adriana Sscallati
Albuquerque Center for Spiritual Living
Allison Sarracino
Anderson Abruzzo International Balloon Museum Foundation

Carol Evans
Casa Verde Salon & Spa
Christy Mae’s
Cooperage/Scarpas
Covenant United Methodist Church
Diaper Bank of NM
Dominick Young, Major
Fuddrucker’s
Girl Scouts of Rio Rancho
Hinkle Family Fun Center
Isotopes
Jenny Elfein
Kelly Jo Designs
Kim Smith
LaSalita
Long Leash on Life
Metal The Brand
Ms. Deborah Benninghoff
PJ’s Motorcycles
Roberto’s Le Salon
Sarah Coca
Scarlet Wright
Spirit Vessles
Sprouts Farmers Market
Starbucks
Stumbling Steer Brewery & Pub
Swiss Alps Bakery
The Egg & I
The Greenside Cafe
The Range
The Urban Hotdog Company
Three Dog Bakery
Tim’s Place
Tinkertown Museum
Torino’s @ Home
Trader Joe’s
Travis Bruce Black
Vintage 423
Vivian Malloy
Weck’s
Yvonne Schreck

PRESBYTERIAN

Meals on Wheels of Albuquerque

Thank you Presbyterian Healthcare for your generous donation of office and kitchen space to our program.
Meals on Wheels of Albuquerque was founded in 1972 by a group of compassionate women who had been studying the problems of hunger nationwide and in their own Albuquerque community. In their research, they came across an article discussing a new program in the Midwest that served meals to the homebound called “Meals on Wheels.”

This discovery galvanized the women into adopting a similar type of program locally. After considerable time, effort, and fundraising, they succeeded. Albuquerque Meals on Wheels became a reality in January of 1972. What started with only 20 clients has grown to over 122,000 meals delivered yearly by 400 hard-working volunteers.

EXECUTIVE TEAM

Shauna Kessler – Executive Director
Jane Dixon-House – Program Director
Robin Falconer – Food Services Director
Don Barratt – Accounting Manager

LEADERSHIP

Ellen Byrl Moore, Retired: President
Elizabeth Skerry, Sr. Financial Modeling Project Manager (PNM Resources): Vice President
Marcus Mims, Partner (CliftonLarsonAllen): Treasurer
Amanda Champine, Realtor: Secretary

DIRECTORS

Cecilia Chavez, Program and Innovation Director (Girl Scouts of America)
Michael Cunningham, Sr. Vice President (First Citizens Bank), Ex-Officio
James Eaton, CPA, President (Business Acquisitions, LLC)
Nathan Koontz, Senior Vice President (Sandia Labs Federal Credit Union), Ex-Officio
Tanja Jenkins, Marketing Manager (Don Chalmers Ford)
S. Scott Davis, Attorney (S. Scott Davis Law Firm)