

# the dish



Meals on Wheels  
OF RHODE ISLAND

celebrating  
50  
YEARS

## DEAR FRIENDS & SUPPORTERS OF MEALS ON WHEELS OF RHODE ISLAND,

Since I joined Meals on Wheels of RI as Executive Director in June, it has been my pleasure to get to know the volunteers, donors and supporters who help us put our mission into action every day here in the Ocean State. Our impact from Woonsocket to Westerly is possible because of your ongoing commitment to our organization!

When Joseph Brown founded our organization in 1969, a small group of volunteers served 17 seniors in Providence. Last year, more than 700 trained volunteers delivered more than 300,000 meals and safety checks to 2,446 homebound Rhode Islanders.

Over the past 50 years, we've grown to being more than just a meal, and as we celebrate our golden anniversary, we're looking to the future. We're asking questions like, what is our vision for our agency in 50 years?

How do we become more innovative and, most importantly, how do we increase our visibility to raise more funds to help more homebound seniors?

We know the need for our service and advocacy will continue to grow, and we appreciate your willingness to renew or increase your gift to celebrate 50 years of Meals on Wheels of RI.

Thank you for your continued generosity as we work together to ensure seniors stay healthy, happy and safe in their homes.

With gratitude,

Meaghan Grady  
Executive Director



## BY THE NUMBERS

THIS PAST YEAR YOU HELPED US WITH...

**597**

seniors served  
at our Capital City  
Café Program sites

**2,446**

homebound  
Rhode Islanders  
served

**301,652**

meals and safety  
checks provided to  
Rhode Islanders

**\$8,200**

raised during our  
buy-a-wheel in-store  
fundraiser

**\$65,000**

raised during our  
2019 March for  
Meals campaign

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

## Kevin Millonzi

*Chair*

Owner, Millonzi Fine Catering and Millonzi's Kitchen Bar

## John Moran

*Vice Chair*

Retired, Meals on Wheels of RI

## Kristin Matsko

*Secretary*

Attorney, Orson and Brusini Ltd.

## Lauren Amaral

*Treasurer*

CPA, Senior Audit Manager, Kahn, Litwin, Renza & Co., Ltd.

## Harold "Skip" Burns

Retired, Raytheon

## Steven Criscione

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## James Joly

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## Stephanie McCaffrey

Vice President, Health Administration and Chief Strategy Officer, East Bay Community Action Program

## Helen Macdonald

Sales Associate, Mott & Chace Sotheby's International Realty

## Peter Marino

President & CEO, Neighborhood Health Plan of RI

## Corey McCarty

Vice President, Consumer Segment, Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Rhode Island

## Patricia Paola

Senior Vice President, Webster Bank

# DID YOU KNOW?

It is dramatically more cost-effective for a homebound senior to receive our meals than to live nursing facility. One month of Meals on Wheels of RI meals is \$172.92 in 2019 vs. \$8,821.00 for a nursing home.

## A NOTE FROM OUR BOARD CHAIR

Before I joined the board in 2017, I spent years working as a part of the catering team that prepared the meals delivered to Meals on Wheels clients throughout Rhode Island. Now that I have been elected as board chair, I'm excited to work with Meghan Grady as we celebrate the 50th Anniversary of Meals on Wheels of Rhode Island.

I am honored to be entrusted with the charge of helping to move Meals on Wheels of RI into its next chapter. For 50 years, we have served our state's most vulnerable residents, and we will continue our vital work as we prepare to meet a rapidly increasing senior population whose needs will change dramatically in the coming years.

We are grateful for your generosity that allows us to carry out our work of delivering healthy meals to our clients, and ensuring their safety and well-being as we make those deliveries. Together, we will continue to be here for Rhode Islanders who need us, for the next 50 years and beyond.

With gratitude,



Kevin Millonzi, Board Chair



**“Thank you so much for checking on my mother. When she did not answer her door for Meals on Wheels of RI, I went to her house and while she is OK, she had fallen. Our hospice nurse came over and we took my mother to the emergency room. Thank you!”**

—Client's daughter

CELEBRATING



50 YEARS

# FESTIVAL OF MEALS



A TASTING GALA

SAVE THE DATE

SATURDAY, NOV. 2, 2019

PAWTUCKET ARMORY ARTS CENTER



*Meals on Wheels*  
OF RHODE ISLAND

**TICKETS & INFO AT [WWW.RIMEALS.ORG](http://WWW.RIMEALS.ORG)**

## THANKING JOE BROWN



As we celebrate our 50th anniversary this year, we recognize that our work would not have been possible with the vision Joe Brown had when he founded Meals on Wheels of RI in February 1969. Seeing an unfilled need in his community, Brown gathered his wife and friends to begin what is now our Home-Delivered Meal Program. He served his agency as executive director for 22 years and as a board member for 45 years. Even after retirement, Brown remained incredibly active with us, attending every meeting and event he could, until he passed in November 2014 at 90 years old. This year, more than ever, we remember him and thank him for his service.

## THE GOOD NEWS

**92%** of seniors receiving home-delivered meals say the program enables them to remain living at home

**90%** say it makes them more safe and secure

**81%** say it improves their health



“  
**The meals are a blessing to me. Thank you for keeping me going. You’re the best.**  
”  
—Client

## CONNECT WITH US

#TOGETHER4SENIORS

**f** @MealsonWheelsofRhodeIsland

**t** @MealsRI

**ig** @MealsonWheelsRI

**in** Meals on Wheels of Rhode Island

## DONATE

### TO FIGHT SENIOR HUNGER

Contact the Development Department

**401-351-6700, ext. 120**

Donate online at [www.rimeals.org](http://www.rimeals.org)  
or mail using the envelope provided.

*Meals on Wheels*  
OF RHODE ISLAND  
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Providence, RI 02908



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