



Enriching the Lives of people in Habersham County since 1981

Our Mission:

To nourish and enrich the lives of seniors and the disabled through services promoting dignity and independent living.

Our Vision:

Dignity, Independence, Community

Our Story:

Meals on Wheels began in Northeast Georgia, and Habersham County in 1981, funded by the Older Americans Act, U.S. Congress. Volunteers delivered ten meals per day Monday through Friday. Thirty five years later, Meals on Wheels is serving 227 people, we have over 75 volunteers delivering 9 routes daily throughout the county. In fiscal year 2017 we will serve 53,719 meals to seniors in our community.

Meals on Wheels Habersham:

Volunteers deliver hot, nutritious meals to the homes of people who can no longer prepare balanced meals for themselves. Menus and meals are approved by a registered state dietician, prepared and catered to the senior center ready to package and deliver.

Providing nourishment to the elderly and disabled in our community is one of the most cost-effective means of promoting better health among our population of older persons. The Journal of the American Dietetic Association estimates that “the total cost of providing a nutritious home-delivered meal to a person every day for one year equals the cost of one in-hospital day.” And studies have shown that malnourished seniors end up staying in the hospital almost twice as long as those who are well nourished.

Our Future:

In the year 2000 older persons outnumbered children for the first time in our history. Nationwide the number of elderly is expected to double by the year 2030.

The rapid growth of the elderly represents in part a triumph of the efforts to extend human life, but it also represents an increasing number of people who will require special services in housing, transportation, health and nutrition.

Today, Meals on Wheels serves a little over 2% of the Habersham County population aged 60 and over. The projected growth of the population of older persons presents challenges and opportunities for which we must prepare.

How we are funded:

Federal 25%, State 5% and County 70%. As federal and state support declines as a source of our overall budget, private contributions from individuals and corporations are more important than ever.