



FALL 2020

Highlight NEWS

MONTGOMERY AREA COUNCIL ON AGING

BECAUSE OF YOU....



PROMISES KEPT, NEEDS MET



Jason Gardner
Board Chair

Wow, have these past six months been a whirlwind! There are many new norms in our daily lives, but the needs of the seniors in our community have not lessened. COVID-19 tried to put a damper on the way we have traditionally accomplished our mission, but COVID-19 has proven no match for the MACOA family.

Thank you to the leadership team, staff, donors, volunteers, board of directors and to all who stepped up during this time to make sure the seniors of our community were taken care of as usual and, in some aspects, even more than usual. We have seen the necessity for changes in how we fund programs, how we meet to plan for those programs, and how we prepare and deliver meals. Through all those changes, our staff, board members, donors and volunteers have stepped up to the plate to make sure the vital services MACOA offers to our community were not negatively impacted by the pandemic of 2020.

I have been asked why I give my time and money to Montgomery Area Council on Aging. My answer is because I know it is utilized to provide not only nutritional meals to seniors in our community but also much needed interaction with and protection for these citizens of our community. To see the smiles on the faces of the people to whom I deliver meals is priceless. COVID-19 has changed the way we interact with these seniors, but it did not and will not change how very important MACOA is in their lives. We still have work to do, and I look forward to working alongside each of you to give back to those who have contributed so much to our community.



Donna Marietta
Executive Director

Over the past six months, MACOA has been incredibly grateful for the community response to help continue our work and mission. Experts had forecasted that non-profits would experience a 20% drop in donations during this healthcare crisis. Many donors, companies, churches, businesses and organizations have continued to support us with donations so we could sustain our services. We have even been blessed by more people volunteering to help deliver Meals On Wheels.

I want to thank all for helping and caring about seniors in our community.

I feel lucky to work with a group of smart and dedicated individuals here at MACOA. Their passion for serving our seniors has not stopped during this period of great challenges and uncertainties. They have stepped up along with the Board of Directors and volunteers to serve our clients. They have a "whatever it takes" attitude. They are on the front lines and I consider them Heroes!

On October 1, we begin a new fiscal year, and it is still a trying time for our country, our clients and for the future funding of MACOA's mission. There has been a huge adjustment for so many seniors since COVID has impacted their daily lives and health. I remember a quote that I heard a few months ago. "Although the world is full of suffering, it is also full of overcoming it". I believe that our community will continue to support with their donations, volunteer time and prayers to enable MACOA to serve our seniors!

Montgomery Area Council On Aging

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Monday - Thursday 8:00am-4:30pm • Friday 8:00am-12:00pm
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For volunteer opportunities contact Traci Herndon
therndon@macoa.org. Call MACOA at (334) 263-0532 for
information on rental space.



About the cover: Meals on Wheels Driver, Heather Wock and Meals on Wheels Client, Curtis Lewis. Ms. Wock has been a Meals on Wheels Driver since 2017. Mr. Lewis began as a frozen meals client in 2017. He was moved to the hot meal program in 2020.



MISSION STATEMENT

The Montgomery Area Council on Aging assists senior citizens by providing services to promote independent living, by offering opportunities to enhance quality of life, and by increasing community awareness of Senior issues.

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EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

Barbara Duke • Sue Groce • Pete Knight
Sarah Spear • Sieu Tang Wood



Holiday Gift Cards That Give Back



MACOA's Christmas and Happy Holidays cards are back - the perfect gift to help spread Season's Greetings to your family, neighbors, friends, clients, co-workers, and all the special people in your life.

Send your holiday contribution to benefit MACOA and Meals On Wheels by December 11, along with the mailing information for those on your list, and we will send them a beautiful personalized card of your choice with either a *Happy Holidays* or *Merry Christmas* greeting. MACOA will let the special people on your list know you've **made a donation in their honor**, and you can enjoy hassle-free holiday gift-giving!



Contact Amy Dennis, Development Coordinator, 334-263-0532 or adennis@macoa.org to learn more.

Your gift is fully tax-deductible and will help brighten the season for seniors throughout our community.

2020 Swinging Fore Seniors Golf Classic Sponsors

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Wednesday, October 21, 2020
Robert Trent Jones Golf Course
Prattville, AL

Meals on Wheels New Delivery Protocol

limiting the number of individuals who enter the building, and everyone, even staff, are required to have their temperatures taken and to answer pertinent health questions daily. Moreover, to make sure all clients, staff, and volunteers are kept safe, MACOA has developed new meal delivery procedures.

Meals are plated and packaged prior to the volunteer drivers' arrival. Drivers are scheduled to pick up meals between 10:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Monday through Friday. When they arrive, drivers park in designated parking spaces. A health officer takes the volunteer's temperature and asks the pertinent health questions. Once the volunteer is cleared to run the route the meals are brought to the car, recounted, and put in the volunteers' coolers. The volunteer also has limited exposure to the client. He or she will call the client to let them know their meal has arrived, ring the doorbell, place the meal on a table on the porch, and wait for the client to come to the door. The volunteer steps back from the door, greets the client and makes sure the meal is picked up. Volunteers wear a mask, in an effort to keep the client—and the volunteer—safe.

“Driving a Meals on Wheels route allows us to give back”
~Joseph and Nelva Brown, Meals on Wheels Drivers

“I enjoy driving a Meals on Wheels route because I know I am helping someone”
~Bessie Taylor, Meals on Wheels Driver

“I love seeing all of the Meals on Wheels Clients!” ~Doug Medcalf
Frazer UMC Meals on Wheels Volunteer





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We hope you will join us for the
16th Annual International Tasting
Sunday, November 8, 2020
115 E. Jefferson Street, Montgomery
1 PM - 3 PM

This year's drive-thru event at MACOA will feature cuisine from around the world! Pick up your meal and dessert and enjoy this International experience from your home! All proceeds support MACOA and the Meals on Wheels Program.

\$45 for an Asian Meal or European Meal
***Includes 6 entrees, assorted desserts and a carryout tote**

***Pickup times between 1 PM and 3 PM must be selected**

Register online at <https://www.macoa.org/international-tasting>
or call 334-263-0532 for more information.

If you are unable to attend, DONATIONS are welcome!