

PRESS RELEASE

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Meals on Wheels

FOR SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

COMMUNITY BRIDGES
PUENTES DE LA COMUNIDAD 

Meals on Wheels is ready to meet growing need for home delivered meals to seniors

WATSONVILLE, CA – On March 15, 2020 the State of California requested all residents over age 65 and those with preexisting respiratory conditions to self-isolate due to growing public health concerns about the rapidly spreading coronavirus. There are over 63,000 Santa Cruz County residents over the age of 65 that will be impacted by this order. Meals on Wheels of Santa Cruz County, a program of Community Bridges, is committed to ensuring that no senior goes hungry during this evolving public health crisis.

All seniors over 65 in Santa Cruz County impacted by Governor Newsom’s regulation are eligible to receive home delivered meals through Meals on Wheels of Santa Cruz County, regardless of income level. A suggested donation of \$2.50 per meal is requested, but no senior will be denied if they do not have the ability to pay.

Effective Monday March 16, all congregate dining sites are temporarily closed to lessen risk of exposure to senior participants. All current Meals on Wheels clients will be able to receive home delivered meals during the temporary site closures.

To receive home delivered meals, please download an application in English or Spanish at <https://communitybridges.org/mealsonwheels>. Send your completed application to MOWINFO@cbridges.org and a Meals on Wheels staff member will contact you.

“Meals on Wheels has served Santa Cruz seniors for over 40 years and we will continue to step up and meet their nutritional needs during this crisis,” says Lisa Berkowitz, Meals on Wheels Program Director. “Demand for meals and food costs are expected to increase dramatically over the next weeks and we need our community to rally around our senior neighbors now.” Please consider making a donation to Meals on Wheels today at www.communitybridges.org/donate.

ABOUT MEALS ON WHEELS FOR SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

Since 1976, Meals on Wheels for Santa Cruz County, a program of Community Bridges, has served nearly 9 million meals to 65,000 local seniors in need. Meals on Wheels for Santa Cruz County serves 1,600 seniors in need each year with nutritious meals and caring human contact. The tireless work of this program—supported by a dedicated army of 200 volunteers—allows thousands of Santa Cruz County residents to remain healthy, safe, and independent in their own homes.

ABOUT COMMUNITY BRIDGES

Community Bridges envisions a thriving community where every person has the opportunity to unleash their full potential. Together, our family of programs delivers essential services, provides equitable access to resources, and advocates for health and dignity across every stage of life. To learn more, please visit www.communitybridges.org.

The Community Bridges family of programs includes the Child & Adult Care Food Program, Child Development Division, Women, Infants and Children (WIC), La Manzana Community Resources, Live Oak Community Resources, Mountain Community Resources, Nueva Vista Community Resources, Elderday Adult Day Health Care, Lift Line and Meals on Wheels for Santa Cruz County.