



October 17, 2025

For Immediate Release

Funding Cuts Force Suspension of Meal Delivery Services for Over a Hundred Local Seniors and Temporary Pause to Connection Café Congregate Dining Program

WHAT/WHEN:

Meals on Wheels South Texas, a nonprofit dedicated to helping seniors in Victoria, DeWitt, and Goliad Counties live connected, nourished lives, announces that due to a **significant funding reduction from the Golden Crescent Area Agency on Aging**, they have had to make changes affecting both their Home-Delivered and Congregate meal programs.

They have raised the threshold score needed to qualify for services and as a result meal delivery services for over a hundred clients will be **suspended at the end of October 2025**. Impacted clients will be placed on a waitlist, and their services will remain suspended for an **undetermined length of time**, dependent on the availability of additional funding.

Meals on Wheels South Texas uses the Texas Health and Human Services [Consumer Needs Evaluation](#) to determine service eligibility. While a minimum score of 20 is required to qualify for services, at this time only those with the highest scores (and highest need) can be served due to limited resources. Individuals qualifying with lower scores will be placed on the waitlist or they can avail themselves of private pay options.

Qualifying clients are eligible for reduced-rate private pay service for \$25/week (the regular rate for private pay is \$45/week). This option allows qualifying individuals with sufficient income to continue receiving meals for a **monthly contribution of \$100**.

The organization's Connection Cafés in Victoria and Yorktown will suspend operations November 14, 2025. In lieu of daily meals, several special events will be held in November, December, and January, while staff work on reimagining the congregate program. The goal is to reopen by February with a renewed focus on meeting the socialization needs of the agency's clientele.

Meals on Wheels South Texas remains committed to helping seniors live connected, even in the midst of less-than-great news. The organization will

once again deliver a holiday meal in connection with HEB's Feast of Sharing on December 11.

WHO:

Over 200 seniors currently enrolled in Meals on Wheels South Texas's home-delivered meal program or who dine in person at one of our Connection Café sites in Victoria or Yorktown.

WHY IT MATTERS:

This funding reduction has an immediate and profound impact on vulnerable seniors in the community—many of whom rely on the organization's programs as one of their primary sources of nutrition and social contact.

QUOTE:

"It is heartbreaking to have to make these difficult decisions," said Dan Capone, President & CEO of Meals on Wheels South Texas. "But we are not alone in having to make them. Meals on Wheels programs across the state and across the country are facing similar realities, with many already maintaining significant waitlists. We've held off as long as we could, but next year's budget numbers make it clear: we must act now to safeguard our mission and continue serving those most in need."

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

A letter outlining details and resource referrals is being sent to all affected clients.

Members of the public who wish to help can donate or learn more by visiting mowstx.org.

ORGANIZATION CONTACT:

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