

# PRESS RELEASE



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## For Immediate Release

### **Clayton County Senior Services to Promote Meals On Wheels Program During the Month of March**

*Community support will help to continue feeding homebound seniors throughout the county*

Jonesboro, GA – Clayton County’s Senior Services Department will join thousands of other meal service providers across the country as supporters of the 2012 March For Meals campaign. March For Meals is a national campaign held during the month of March, initiated and sponsored by the Meals On Wheels Association of America (MOWAA). The initiative raises awareness about senior hunger and encourages action on the part of local communities to become more involved with meal delivery programs. This year marks the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the inclusion of Senior Nutrition Programs in the Older Americans Act (OAA) as part of the observance.

In honor of the March For Meals campaign the Clayton County Board of Commissioners (CCBOC) will show their support on Tuesday, March 6 by proclaiming March as Meals On Wheel Month in Clayton County. The commissioners will present a proclamation to Senior Services Meals on Wheels staff, Advisory Board and volunteers during the 7:00pm Business Meeting. Also during the week of March 19 various county officials and elected officials will assist in delivering meals to area seniors and spend time visiting with the older residents in honor of the month.

“In this tough economy, the food and human contact we provide to seniors in Clayton County is needed more than ever,” said Mary Byrd, the director of senior services. “We need the community to support our Meals On Wheels (MOW) program not just in March but throughout the year by volunteering and making financial donations. The county’s MOW program is funded through various grants and private financial donations. Our service provides nutritious meals to nearly 200 Clayton County seniors. In 2011 we provided 44,986 meals to our county seniors and the demand continues to grow.”

As part of Senior Service’s mission of enhancing the quality of life for Clayton County’s senior adult population by promoting healthy aging programs such as Meals On Wheels the department will continue make it their goal to see that no Clayton County senior goes without at least one nutritional meal per day.

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