

## **New Survey Details Impact of Sequester on Meals on Wheels Programs**

**Alexandria, VA, June 4, 2013** - New information detailing the devastating impact of the federally mandated budget cuts known as sequester was released today by the Meals On Wheels Association of America. Based on a survey of Meals on Wheels programs across the country, these findings reveal nearly 70% of Meals on Wheels survey respondents have reduced the number of meals served to the nation's hungry and homebound seniors.

Among the findings survey respondents revealed:

- Programs have been forced to cut, on average, 364 meals per week;
- Over 70% are establishing or adding to existing waiting lists;
- Programs have increased their waiting lists on average by 58 seniors;
- 40% of programs responding have eliminated staff positions; and
- One in six are closing congregate meals sites or home-delivered meal programs

"Every day, Meals on Wheels programs provide a lifeline by serving meals to our nation's most vulnerable, frail, and isolated seniors," said Meals On Wheels Association President and CEO Ellie Hollander. "The real impact of sequester is that our programs don't have the ability to expand to meet the growing need. We should be investing in these programs to ensure our seniors have the nutritious meals they need to remain healthy and independent."

The survey was conducted May 7-10, 2013, among Meals on Wheels Association Members who currently receive federal funding through the Older Americans Act.

To View the Sequester Survey Summary, please click [here](#).

To view Sequester Impact At a Glance graphic please click [here](#).

### **About Meals On Wheels Association of America**

*The Meals On Wheels Association of America (MOWAA) is the only national organization and network dedicated solely to ending senior hunger in America. MOWAA is the oldest and largest organization composed of and representing local, community-based Senior Nutrition Programs in all 50 states as well as the U.S. territories. MOWAA's vision is to end senior hunger by 2020. To obtain more information about MOWAA or to locate a local Meals On Wheels program, visit the MOWAA website at [www.mowaa.org](http://www.mowaa.org).*