

Contact: Jenny Bertolette Communications Director 571-339-1603 jenny@mowaa.org

Meals On Wheels Association of America Announces 2014 American Volunteer

Volunteers Honored at the 2014 Meals On Wheels Annual Conference in Scottsdale, AZ

Alexandria, VA, August 28, 2014 – The Meals On Wheels Association of America announced the winners of the 2014 American Volunteer Contest on Tuesday, August 26 during the Meals On Wheels Annual Conference and Expo's American Volunteer Luncheon, sponsored by AARP. The American Volunteer Contest honors the dedication of the army of two million volunteers that enables Meals on Wheels programs to serve seniors in virtually every community across the country.

The top vote-getter and recipient of the First Place award was given to volunteer Glenn "Lefty" Miller on behalf of Association Member program Knoxville-Knox County Office on Aging in Knoxville, TN. Second Place was awarded to volunteer Bruce Taylor on behalf of Association Member program Greer Community Ministries in Greer, SC. Third Place was awarded to volunteer Martine Zimmer on behalf of Association Member program Meals on Wheels of Greenville in Greenville, SC. The Association's Staff Pick Award was given to volunteer Bill Dobbin on behalf of Association Member program Meals on Wheels of Western Broome in Endicott, NY.

Knoxville-Knox County Office on Aging took home \$1,000 and will receive a custom-made, fullyproduced video created by the Association's Studio Store; Greer Community Ministries received \$750; Meals on Wheels of Greenville received \$500 and Meals on Wheels of Western Broome received \$250.

"The American Volunteer Contest was designed to recognize volunteers as the backbone of Meals on Wheels," said Ellie Hollander, President and CEO of the Meals On Wheels Association of America. "It's our dedicated army of two million volunteers that delivers not only one million meals a day nationwide, but also the friendly smile and safety check that enable seniors to remain living independently in their own homes."

In total, <u>39 nominated volunteers</u> and their programs were recognized at the American Volunteer Luncheon and received both a Certificate of Honor signed by the President and CEO Ellie Hollander and American Volunteer merchandise.

The 2014 American Volunteer Contest garnered the highest amount of entries, votes and visits to the Association's Facebook contest app since the online contest began in 2009.

About the Meals On Wheels Association of America

The Meals On Wheels Association of America is the only national organization and network dedicated solely to ending senior hunger in America. The Association is the oldest and largest organization composed of and representing local community-based Senior Nutrition Programs in all 50 states and U.S. territories. More than 5,000 local Meals on Wheels Programs leverage a dedicated army of two million volunteers who day-in and day-out create an efficient and caring way to help America's seniors stay independent, healthy and able to live in their own homes. For more information, or to locate a Meals on Wheels program, visit mowaa.org.