



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

\$1.1 Trillion Funding Bill Approved by Congress Delivers Good News for Meals on Wheels

Alexandria, VA, January 17, 2014 – Meals On Wheels Association of America President and CEO Ellie Hollander today issued the following statement regarding Congress' final approval of the \$1.1 trillion funding bill.

Today we congratulate and commend the leaders of the House and Senate Appropriations Committees for producing a bipartisan bill that restores critical funding for vulnerable seniors and guarantees our government remains open through September of this year. We also want to recognize the staffs that are behind the scenes and worked diligently through the holidays to make this bill a reality.

The funding bill, which will increase appropriations for senior nutrition programs under the Older Americans Act by \$46 million for the balance of FY14, provides much-needed certainty and peace of mind for thousands of nutrition providers across the country. The total funding level of \$815 million would also avert a second round of across-the-board cuts, while restoring funds lost from the sequestration that was ordered in March of 2013.

In FY15 and beyond, we will continue to urge Congress to look to nutrition programs like Meals on Wheels as part of the solution to our long-term fiscal challenges and to make greater investments to keep up with the increasing demand. Our programs enable seniors to remain healthier and out of nursing homes or hospitals, and as such, dramatically reduce their health care costs often paid for by taxpayers.

About 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 as well as the 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 local Meals on Wheels program, visit mowaa.org.