

# MEALS ON WHEELS ANNUAL CONFERENCE & EXPO 2018

# PRESENTATION TITLE



President & CEO
Meals on Wheels San Diego County
dcase@meals-on-wheels.org

# **CHANGING WITH THE TIMES**

- Early 1900's through 1930's
  - Families ate together at home
  - Radio was informational and entertainment
  - Public transportation
- 1940's
  - McDonalds opened.
    - Novelty for the family to experience
  - Televisions were available to the public
- 1950's
  - Kentucky Fried Chicken opened
  - Other drive through food opened
  - Swanson started to produce frozen meals in 1953- Turkey dinner
  - One car owned by most families

#### 1960's

- Many fast food restaurants existed
  - Various cuisines, national & regional
- Color television became affordable
  - Advertising was vibrant and moved with the times
- Frozen food selection exploded
- Two car families
- Choice became the fabric of the Baby Boomers life

#### 1970's and beyond

- Computers went from the size of a building to micro
- Information travels in nanoseconds
- Choice is everywhere
- The world has shrunk even with cuisine
- Convenience is king

#### Have it your way your way Magically delicious The flavor says butter \_ = Hey, how about Hawiian Punch? Love it for life Betcha can't eat just one Made from Bett Start aging The taste of a new generation Where's The best stuff Nobody On earth does smart chicken Eat Fresh like Think outside the bun It just tastes better Something to KFC smile about A can a week, They're G-r-r-eat!

Pardon me, do you have any Grey Poupon? You deserve a break today

that's all we ask

#### **MEALS ON WHEELS NOW**

#### TAKE A RISK



# IT'S ALL ABOUT CHOICE

#### Listen

- Set up a nutrition Hotline for the clients
- Take short surveys regarding food
- Gather feedback from volunteers and courier drivers
- Keep your pulse on culinary changes in your area

#### Act

- Call clients back
- Communicate back the results of surveys
- Evaluate the need for change from the surveys
- Use the resources around you
  - Meal Center staffs, local chefs, restaurants, magazines, TV

#### **EVALUATE CURRENT MENU**

#### People eat with their eyes first

- Is the packaging "friendly"
  - Bag versus stadium box
- Is the food appealing-Is it beige?
  - Bright
  - Colorful
  - Variety





#### WHAT STAYS AND WHAT GOES?

Review surveys and notes from feedback

- Keep what is working and favorites
  - All time favorites
  - Regional items
- Tweak items that can be modernized
  - Pump up the meatloaf
  - "Smashed" Potatoes
- Over processed items need to go!
- Decide what you are capable of producing
  - Luncheon meats
    - Can you roast the raw product yourself?
- Cost
  - Can you afford that special item once a month?
    - Steak, farro & kale bowl
    - Black bean, mango & couscous with salmon

# **MODERNIZE**

- Be aware of trends
  - Work with local chefs, culinary schools and higher education nutritional studies programs
- Add items that are new and different
  - Ancient grains
  - Kale
  - "Bowls"
  - Wraps
- Change the sides
  - How many times can you have peas and carrots?
- Sauces, dressings, herbs & spices
  - Make it in house without preservatives, added sodium or sugars
  - Use natural products such as agave

#### HOW?

Plan, execute, change, execute-repeat as needed

- Use your network of partners and supporters
  - Involve your clients and staff- do they have a favorite family recipe?
- Is there a local chef or two to assist?
- Interns
  - Become an accredited program for college and university interns in Nutritional studies and/or culinary arts
- Steps
  - Make the original recipe for comparison
  - Change out high levels of sodium, fat and sugar
  - Taste-adjust-taste-adjust
  - Develop nutritional information
  - Cost out
  - Sample to a test group

# **DELIVER**

#### The real test:

- Add to menu for following month
  - Limit the number of new items per month
  - Send out a notice about the new item with the meal
    - Special nutritional value
    - "As seen in Food Network magazine"
    - Menu item by local Chef XXXX
    - Include Hotline number to call
- Follow-up
  - Short survey
    - Wraps- why do some seniors love them and some don't
- Decision
  - Keep on rotation, tweak or eliminate

# THINK OUTSIDE THE BOX









# Lower sodium, fat & sugar

# YOUR NOT ALONE

- Your property- What are your capabilities?
  - Garden Clubs and guilds as volunteers to plant and maintain
  - Ability to supplement meals with fruit to rural clients
- Local partners
  - Fishermen
  - Farmers
  - Gleaners
  - Farmer's Markets
  - Local Markets
  - Restaurants
  - Other nonprofits- Food Banks

#### **CHOICE THROUGH OPT-OUTS**

#### San Diego Program

- Choices
  - Milk, water, juice (6 kinds) or soy milk
  - Entrée delivered hot or frozen
  - Minimum 3 days per week; maximum 7 days
    - Sunday meals delivered with Saturday meals
  - Two meals per day or just lunch or dinner and beverage
  - Healthy Variety entrée or Healthy Latino entrée
  - No pork, fish, large green salads or wraps
    - Will receive alternative meals
- Surveys are important
  - Wraps were added due to the result of listening to comments and conducting a survey
    - Age was a differentiator

# LEAP, ROLL THE DICE, TAKE A CHANCE



STAY RELEVANT, CURRENT & COMPETITIVE