



Congratulations on your 50 Year Anniversary, Meals on Wheels in Greater New Brunswick and thank you for enriching the lives of our senior community!

From your friends at the Hyatt Regency New Brunswick, proud partner of MOWGNB for 15 years!



MEALS ON WHEELS IN
GREATER NEW BRUNSWICK

**50th Anniversary
Celebration**

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2023
HYATT REGENCY NEW BRUNSWICK



Congratulations Meals on Wheels of Greater New Brunswick!

Here's to reaching this remarkable milestone and
celebrating 50 years of service to the community.



Meals on Wheels in Greater New Brunswick has been delivering meals since 1973. Volunteers have contributed generously of their time, which has enabled many elderly and homebound residents of New Brunswick and Highland Park to continue living in their own homes. We now deliver 30,000 meals each year and are currently funded by government grants and private donations.

94 Church Street, Suite 302
New Brunswick, NJ 08901
(732) 249-3488

email: mowgnb@aol.com
website: <https://mowgnb.org/>

Executive Director: Shareka Fitz

**We thank all of our volunteers and
supporters!**

Parkerlife.org |     

MEALS ON WHEELS
IN GREATER NEW BRUNSWICK

THANKS

PENNY AND DON PRAY
FOR THEIR SUPPORT OF OUR

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produce program*

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VEGETABLES DIRECTLY TO OUR
HOMEBOUND CLIENTS

Produce sourced from the
New Brunswick Community Farmers Market

ASK US HOW YOU CAN
SUPPORT THIS PROGRAM!

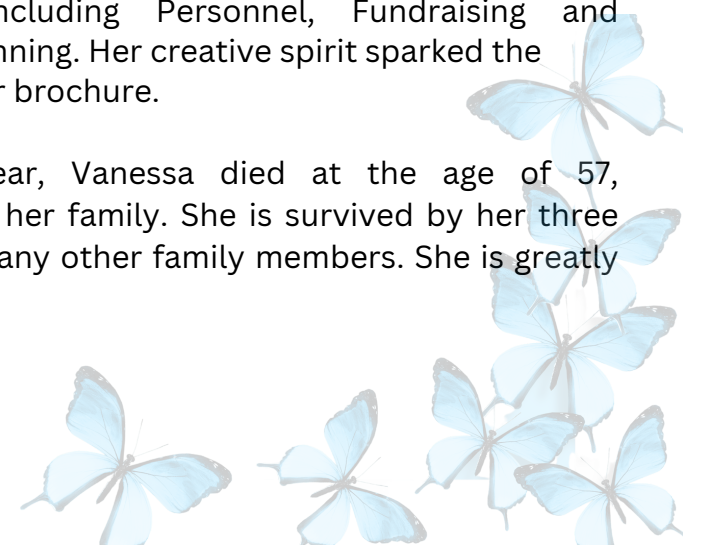
Our event is being held in memory of
Vanessa Dunzik



Vanessa Louise Dunzik was committed to addressing hunger and food insecurity in New Brunswick. She was a founding member of the Feeding New Brunswick Network. Vanessa's Food Pantry at Emanuel Lutheran Church was named in honor of her dedication to her service in feeding the hungry. In 2019, she received ShopRite's Hunger Hero award.

Vanessa was a special member of our MOWGNB family. A board member since 2017, she was a tireless advocate for our clients and made valuable contributions to committees including Personnel, Fundraising and Emergency Planning. Her creative spirit sparked the re-design of our brochure.

Earlier this year, Vanessa died at the age of 57, surrounded by her family. She is survived by her three children and many other family members. She is greatly missed.



AWARDEES

Helen Burd-Outstanding Volunteer

Helen Burd began volunteering shortly after the program started in 1973, having served in many roles, including kitchen coordinator, volunteer delivery person, Director and Board member. Helen is our longest serving volunteer at 50 years and counting.

Mayor James Cahill—Civic Support Award

James M. Cahill is the 62nd Mayor of the City of New Brunswick. A lifelong City resident, he has served continuously as Mayor since 1991. Each year, Mayor Cahill delivers meals during the March for Meals Mayors' Day, and provides consistent support for MOWGNB and homebound seniors in New Brunswick.

Edna May Hirshman-Lifetime Achievement

Edna May Hirshman was one of our founding members 50 years ago. Edna May was the first Director of MOWGNB and served for 15 years in that capacity.

Hyatt Regency New Brunswick-Outstanding Corporate Support

The Hyatt Regency New Brunswick is located in downtown New Brunswick. For 15 years, the Hyatt has supported MOWGNB by providing staff to deliver meals and serve on our Board. They also sponsor our annual fundraiser event.

Magyar Savings Bank-Outstanding Community Support

Magyar Savings Bank is based in New Brunswick with branches in Central Jersey. Magyar Bank has been a consistent financial supporter of MOWGNB and has provided staff to deliver meals and serve on the Board.

Rita Messing-Outstanding Supporter

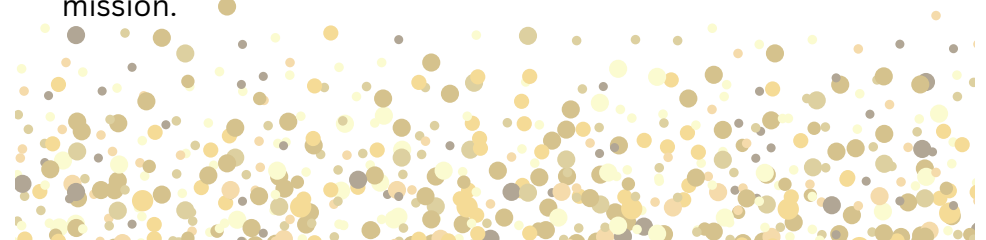
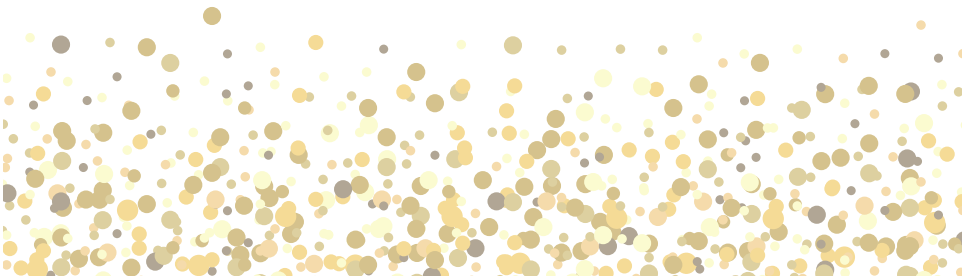
Rita Messing began volunteering for MOWGNB in 1985, both in the Saint Peter's University Hospital kitchen and as a driver and jumper. She served on the Board and as Secretary, and along with her husband, the late Dr. Joachim Messing, has been an enthusiastic supporter of our program.

Janet Price-Outstanding Volunteer

Janet Price was one of the founding members of MOWGNB. She volunteered in the Saint Peter's University Hospital kitchen to put meals together, and she also delivered meals. Janet served as Director for 15 years.

Saint Peter's University Hospital-Founding Organization Award

Saint Peter's University Hospital, part of Saint Peter's Healthcare System, is a 478-bed acute care teaching hospital sponsored by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Metuchen. Saint Peter's is a regional specialist in maternity, pediatrics, diabetes, oncology and geriatrics, serving the community since 1907. Saint Peter's provided meals for MOWGNB for our first 36 years, and they have continued to support our mission.



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OUR 50 YEAR HISTORY

In the fall of 1972, following a program sponsored by the American Red Cross on Food for the Elderly, community organizations in New Brunswick recognized a need and created Meals on Wheels in Greater New Brunswick to deliver meals to homebound elderly. The members of the planning committee were Edna May Hirschman, Mary Keithler, Grace Evans, Jeff Murray, Janet Price, Don Higgins, Norman Boggs, Maxine Gatling, and others.



Initial funding was provided by The New Brunswick Mutual Foundation. The American Red Cross, Saint Peter's General Hospital (now Saint Peter's University Hospital) and Middlesex County General Hospital (now Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital) were the three sponsoring agencies for the new organization. New Brunswick women's groups provided staffing, with volunteers coming from Church Women United, National Council of Jewish Women, the National Council of Negro Women, the Visiting Nurses Association, 20 churches and synagogues, the County Medical Society Auxiliary, nine United Fund organizations and five county and city government agencies.



With Saint Peter's University Hospital preparing the food, volunteers delivered the first meals on April 16, 1973 to eight clients. In 2009, MOWGNB contracted with Promise Catering, a program of Elijah's Promise in New Brunswick, to prepare our meals as part of their culinary school. In 2022, Meals on Wheels contracted with EU'S Catering in Somerset for our meals.

We now have well over 125 unique clients per year, and we deliver over 33,000 meals each year (5 days a week). Our primary mission has always been to provide nutrition to the homebound elderly residents of New Brunswick and Highland Park. We have recently expanded the service to deliver shelf-stable emergency food for snow and hurricane days, fresh fruits and vegetables from a local farmers market, household cleaning products, and personal care items. Under a special grant, we are delivering meals to younger disabled or homebound adults who would not ordinarily be eligible for our services. We are currently funded by government and private grants and private donations.


We have had a number of wonderful program directors over the years. Edna May Hirschman was the first, serving for 15 years. She was followed by Helen Burd, Janet Price, Joan Casarella, Dana Andrews, and Helena Monroe. Shareka Fitz was hired as Program Director in 2008 and in 2018 became our first Executive Director, a role in which she currently serves with distinction. In addition to Shareka, we have one part-time employee, Monica Khetarpal.



Our Board of Directors is hands on, providing many services that would ordinarily be a drain on financial resources. James Horvath is our longest serving member, and he has been on the Board since 1987.

Since 1973, volunteers have contributed generously of their time. We have many weekly and monthly volunteers, as well as corporations such as the Hyatt and Johnson and Johnson, who have supported their staff as volunteers over the years. We have partnered with multiple social service organizations to provide volunteer opportunities for adults with developmental delays. Currently, more than 80 volunteers, community organizations, and Rutgers University students deliver meals. Helen Burd is our longest serving volunteer and has been delivering meals for 50 years and counting.

The hard work of our staff and volunteers have allowed many elderly and homebound residents of New Brunswick, Highland Park, and the surrounding area to continue living independently. Over the past 50 years, we have served over one million meals, and we hope to serve many more.



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**Meals on Wheels in Greater New Brunswick
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Asali Guions
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Merrill Lunt
Yesenia Medina-Hernandez
Akhila Naik
Bharat Sarath
Susan Stephenson-Martin*

***Executive Director
Shareka Fitz***

**Saint Peter's University Hospital
is proud to be recognized by
Meals On Wheels
in Greater New Brunswick**



**Congratulations on
Celebrating 50 Years
of Serving Our Community**



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James F. Horvath
and
Annette Stec Horvath

congratulate

Meals on Wheels
in
Greater New Brunswick
on its 50th Anniversary



CELEBRATING
*Meals on Wheels
Greater New Brunswick*

50th

*Enriching the lives of seniors and assisting them in
maintaining independence by providing nutritious
food, human connections, and social services support.*

HONORING

Hon. James M. Cahill

Helen Burd ♦ Edna May Hirshman ♦ Rita Messing ♦ Janet Price

Hyatt Regency Hotel ♦ Magyar Savings Bank

♦ Saint Peter's University Hospital ♦



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50 years

*Meals on Wheels in
Greater New Brunswick*

*Congratulations to
Mayor Cahill
and all the
Honorees on a well
deserved recognition!!*



EVELYN'S

45 Easton Ave.
New Brunswick, NJ 08901

Congratulations

*Meals on Wheels in
Greater New Brunswick on your
50th Anniversary*

&

Honoree Mayor James Cahill

*Thank you for your dedication and service
to our community!*

*Council President Rebecca Escobar, Vice President Kevin Egan,
Councilman John Anderson, Councilman Glen Fleming,
Councilwoman Suzanne Sicora-Ludwig,
Councilman Castañeda and Councilwoman Petra Gaskins.*

*Paid for by the New Brunswick Democratic Organization, TK Shamy, Chair
P.O. Box 1208 New Brunswick, NJ 08903*

**The New Brunswick
Democratic Organization
Congratulates Honoree
Mayor Jim Cahill**

AND THANK YOU TO



**for your 50 years of courageous
efforts to improve the lives of
seniors in New Brunswick.
Our community is more fortunate
thanks to your service.**

Paid for by the New Brunswick Democratic Organization
T. K. Shamy, Chairman, PO Box 1208, New Brunswick, NJ 08903



The Members of the Board of Directors of MOWGNB
gratefully acknowledge

Shareka Fitz

For her 15 years of dedicated service to our organization and clients.

○○○○○

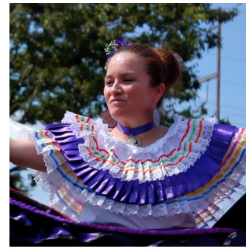
Shareka, you always go above and beyond, and we are so lucky that you are
MOWGNB's Executive Director!

**Congratulations to Meals on
Wheels in Greater New
Brunswick for 50 wonderful
years helping our seniors!
Thanks to the Board,
volunteers, and Shareka!**

Harriet Worobey
President, MOWGNB



New Brunswick Tomorrow is a social impact organization dedicated to enriching the lives of New Brunswick's people by improving quality of life for all who call New Brunswick home. The safety of the neighborhood you live in, a family's health and well-being, and a child's ability to meet their fullest potential are all issues at the core of New Brunswick Tomorrow's work to move people forward. New Brunswick Tomorrow fosters networks of institutions and community organizations, serving as a catalyst in developing solutions that improve the issues that matter most to city residents.



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*Happy 50^h to
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Congratulations Meals on Wheels
on your 50th Anniversary!

From Your Friends at State Theatre
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*The Hirshman Family salutes
Meals-on-Wheels
in Greater New Brunswick,
its founders and employees
and all the volunteers
for 50 years of service.*

Thanks!
FOR YOUR SERVICE

Thank you **Dr. Karen Wei-Ru Lin** for
your inspiring leadership, dedicated
service, and compassionate support of
central Jersey, including Meals on
Wheels in Greater New Brunswick.

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President, KASA Invest

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~

In memory of
Ron M. Subramanian

~

Suman Subramanian



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50TH ANNIVERSARY

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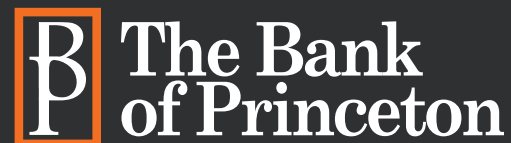
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