

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**NCJW MEALS ON WHEELS SEEKS
DRIVERS AND MEAL PACKERS**

*Kosher food program offers services to residents in
Oakland and surrounding counties*

SOUTHFIELD, Mich.– June 10, 2010 – The National Council of Jewish Women, Greater Detroit Section's Meals on Wheels program is in need of volunteers. For 37 years, Kosher Meals on Wheels has provided high quality lunches and dinners for the homebound. The only Meals on Wheels program in the community to provide kosher and glatt kosher meals, the organization prepares and delivers 40,000 meals a year.

Five days-a-week, more than 150 volunteers package and deliver the meals to local communities. Volunteers range in age from youngsters just old enough to be volunteering for their Bar/Bat Mitzvah service requirements to adults in their 90s. Each morning, packagers organize the meals and have them distributed in less than a half hour. Drivers deliver the meals to cities as far as Commerce to Royal Oak. Once a week, they deliver to Wayne County.

Founded by current volunteer treasurer Esther Rosenblum, Kosher Meals on Wheels provides five lunches and five dinners a week to its clients, who do not need to be Jewish, but should keep kosher. The organization also assists homebound or disabled individuals able to adhere to a kosher diet. Meals are prepared at the Jewish Senior Life Prentiss Apartments in Oak Park by Morrison Senior Dining chef Dave Dry and his team.

Program participants make a donation within their ability to pay for meals, and some clients need not pay at all. The National Council of Jewish Women, Greater Detroit Section provides the additional funding from the proceeds raised at their Council Thrift Shops in Royal Oak and Berkley. Additional support is provided by AAA 1-B, the Michigan Office of Services to the Aging (OSA) and the Older Americans Act. The program is run in cooperation with Jewish Family Service, which provides intake and casework services.

Drivers have dedicated routes and know the status and behaviors of each of their clients, who in some cases is the only person they will see all day. Not only do the drivers deliver the food but they also provide the social interaction that some of their clients are lacking.

“Kosher Meals on Wheels provides much more than food. The program provides friendship and can sometimes be a very real lifesaver to our clients,” said Irma Glaser, President, National Council of Jewish Women, Greater Detroit Section. “Our delivery volunteers have, in some instances, been the first at the side of a person in need.”

Glaser adds, “While we have wonderful, dedicated volunteers, we are always looking for more. We have come to mean something to the community and to so many families. Our goal is to serve more in the years ahead.”

For more information on Kosher Meals on Wheels, or to alert the organization to someone in need, please call (248) 967-0967, 8:00 am-10:30 am Monday-Friday.

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