



*“Working Harder To Make Aging Easier”*

**AGENCY ON AGING OF NORTHEASTERN ILLINOIS ANNOUNCES NEW SERVICE PROVIDERS FOR KANE AND MC HENRY COUNTIES**

Staff and Volunteers Sought for Home Delivered Meal Programs for More Than 850 Residents Age 60+

West Chicago, Ill., - (Feb. 6, 2018) – The Agency on Aging of Northeastern Illinois, who funds congregate and home-delivered meals to Illinois residents age 60+ in Chicago’s collar counties, today announced a change of service providers in Kane and McHenry counties.

Starting March 1, 2018, Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Chicago will provide home-delivered meals, commonly known as “meals on wheels” in McHenry County and the Kane Senior Council will deliver meals in Kane County. Previously, meal service in both counties was managed by The Salvation Army Golden Diners program.

Meals are delivered to residents 3 to 5 times a week, and often they are the primary source of nutrition for program participants. According to Meals On Wheels America, 81% of Illinois meal recipients report improved health and 92% say the program enables them to remain living at home.

“Providing nutritious meals to underserved seniors is a priority for every community,” said Marla Fronczak, executive director of the Agency on Agency of Northeastern Illinois. “We know Catholic Charities and Kane Senior Council staff and volunteers will aptly serve some of our most vulnerable residents at a time when the weather adds a layer of difficulty to obtaining nutritious meals.”

Fronczak said Illinois home-delivered meal participants face the risk of nursing home admission if meals are not provided, adding that many are unable to leave home on a regular basis to obtain food. One year of “meals on wheels” costs approximately the same as one day in the hospital, added Fronczak.

Both agencies are in need of volunteers to deliver meals and staff members to coordinate meal distribution and volunteer scheduling.

Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Chicago is one of the largest private, non-profit social service agencies in the Midwest, annually assisting more than one million people, without regard to religious, ethnic or economic background. The organization offers 150 programs at 164 locations across Cook and Lake Counties. To volunteer, contact Catholic Charities Senior Services at 847-546-5733 or [MCHNutrition@catholiccharities.net](mailto:MCHNutrition@catholiccharities.net) .

Kane Senior Council is part of the DuPage Senior Citizens Council (DSCC). Established in 1975, DSCC is a 501(c) (3) not-for-profit, community-based, volunteer-driven agency dedicated to providing basic need services to the elderly in DuPage County, Illinois. Their programs help seniors live safely in their own homes and communities and provide them with the resources necessary to maintain their physical and mental health. DSCC will be implementing the Title III C 1 & 2 program in Kane County as the Kane Senior Council. To volunteer in Kane County, call 630-620-0804 or contact [cathy.jordan@dupageseniorcouncil.org](mailto:cathy.jordan@dupageseniorcouncil.org).

The Agency on Aging of Northeastern Illinois is a nonprofit organization responsible for developing and coordinating a network of services for older persons throughout an eight-county area in northeastern Illinois. The agency informs and advises public and private organizations and the general public of the needs of older persons living in the area and acts as an advocate on their behalf. The Agency serves DuPage, Grundy, Kane, Kankakee, Kendall, Lake, McHenry, and Will Counties. Other information about the agency and other topics of interest to the elderly and links to other resources are available at the agency's website: [www.ageguide.org](http://www.ageguide.org).

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