

# NEWS RELEASE



FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Toni Gianforti      443-573-0914  
Email:                marketcomm@mowcm.org  
Web Site:            [www.mealsonwheelsmd.org](http://www.mealsonwheelsmd.org)  
Address:             515 South Haven Street  
                             Baltimore, MD 21224

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – February 28, 2008

## **MEALS ON WHEELS OF CENTRAL MARYLAND CERTIFIED AS MBE**

Baltimore, MD – **Meals on Wheels of Central Maryland** has been certified as a Minority Business Enterprise (MBE – Certification No. DOT MBE 08-083) by the Maryland Department of Transportation.

In addition to continuing to provide food services to those in the Central Maryland region who are unable to prepare their own meals or shop for their groceries because of chronic or acute disability or illness, the new certification entitles Meals on Wheels to do business on a straight state only basis as an MBE contractor or subcontractor in the following areas: (1) providing meals to adult and child day care programs, and senior centers, and; (2) providing catering services for individual events held by other human/social services organizations.

Meals on Wheels has bid on and secured various food service contracts in the past and has directed revenue from these contracts to support its charitable home-delivered meals program. “The majority of our clients suffer from debilitating and chronic illnesses such as arthritis, diabetes, and heart problems, that prevent them from performing simple activities of daily living, like shopping for their food or preparing their own meals,” said A. Thomas Grazio, Meals on Wheels executive director. “Our new MBE status enables us to compete on a more level playing field for some of these contracts so that we can continue to provide meals to people who are homebound and in need of our services,”

**-end-**

*Meals on Wheels of Central Maryland is a nonprofit organization that enables homebound people to eat well and remain in their own homes. Our dedicated staff and volunteers prepare and deliver over 800,000 nutritious meals a year. But Meals on Wheels is more than a meal – we also provide grocery shopping and other support services to help our clients maintain independence and peace of mind.*