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**PRESS RELEASE**  
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### **Wesley Community Services Receives Grant for Project HEAL**

The Helen Steiner Rice Fund of the Greater Cincinnati Foundation announced funding of Wesley Community Services project HEAL (Helping the Elderly Achieve Longevity). The grant is for \$8,800 to benefit up to 30 Wesley Community Services' Meals-On-Wheels clients at risk for severe malnutrition by offering oral nutritional supplements (e.g. Boost or Ensure) over a two-year period. Project HEAL will target clients residing in Hamilton County enrolled in the Hamilton County Elderly Services Program administered by the Council on Aging of Southwestern, Ohio.

“The goal of this project is to assist clients who are at highest risk for malnutrition to achieve improved nutritional status with the addition of oral nutritional supplements to their current meals-on-wheels,” explained Stephen Smookler, Executive Director, Wesley Community Services.

“This is an exciting endeavor for Wesley Community Services as we become the only Meals-On-Wheels provider in Southwestern Ohio to offer oral nutritional supplements to Meals-On-Wheels clients,” said Reverend Stephanie Tunison, Chief Executive Officer, Wesley Services Organization. “Project HEAL will add a new dimension to Wesley’s family of services by promoting added nutritional intervention for the elderly.”

“I applaud Wesley Community Services for ensuring that the seniors they serve receive the proper nutrition they need to survive,” said Enid Borden, President and CEO of Meals-On-Wheels Association of America (MOWAA). “Over six million seniors in America today are facing the threat of hunger, but with programs like Wesley Community Services, I am confident that we will live to see the day when no senior in this country goes hungry.”

The project replicates a handful of meals-on-wheels programs nationwide that provide oral nutritional supplements to seniors.

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**About Wesley Community Services:**

Wesley Community Services (Wesley) fosters and supports seniors seeking to remain in their home for as long as possible through the provision of essential home-based services including Meals-On-Wheels, Specialized Transportation and Home/Personal Care. Wesley also has a Pet Portions program (free pet food for clients’ pets) and PetKare program (vouchers for veterinary services for clients’ pets). Wesley provided services to approximately 2,300 seniors and individuals with disabilities in 2010, is funded by the Council on Aging of Southwestern Ohio, Boone County, Kentucky, and is a United Way partner agency. For more information about Wesley Community Services call 513/661-2777, or visit [www.wesleycs.org](http://www.wesleycs.org).

**About Wesley Services Organization:**

Wesley Services Organization is the parent entity of Wesley Community Services and Lincoln Crawford Nursing and Rehabilitation Center.

**About Meals On Wheels Association of America:**

The Meals On Wheels Association of America (MOWAA) is the oldest and largest national organization in the United States representing those programs that provide meals to people in need. MOWAA’s vision is to end senior hunger by 2020. To obtain more information about MOWAA or to locate a local Meals On Wheels program, visit the MOWAA website at [www.mowaa.org](http://www.mowaa.org).