



WARREN COUNTY
Community Services INC

Strengthening the Fabric of our Community

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WARREN COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES RECEIVES \$1500 FROM MEALS ON WHEELS AMERICA TO SUPPORT CLIENTS AND THEIR PETS

Much-Needed Funding Helps Keep Warren & Butler County Seniors and Their Pets Together

Lebanon, Ohio June 26, 2017 – Warren County Community Services is proud to announce that it has received a \$1500 grant from Meals on Wheels America to support its client pet support program. Funding will be used to provide food, supplies and care for area clients with pets – all of which can be financially and physically burdensome.

In total, Meals on Wheels America has granted \$300,000 to 193 local Meals on Wheels programs through the *Meals on Wheels Loves Pets* initiative this year. Funding is made possible in part through a donation from Banfield Charitable Trust (BCT). To date, the grant program has distributed more than \$2.4 million in funding and pet food donations.

“While the benefits of companionship are clear, taking care of a pet can be financially and physically challenging for seniors,” said Meals on Wheels America President and CEO Ellie Hollander. “Meals on Wheels Loves Pets helps local Meals on Wheels providers alleviate this hardship and at the same time reduce the negative effects of isolation.”

“This grant will help us to continue to provide our clients with so much more than a meal,” says Amy Houpey, Food Service Director. “Just to name a few, it will provide a way to stay connected, to interact with others, to reduce depression and the feeling of isolation. This grant will allow us to continue to enrich and enhance the lives of our clients as well as their pets. We want to help our clients to be able to stay in their homes with their beloved pets as long as possible. “

About Warren County Community Services:

For more than 50 years, WCCS has served as the community’s primary link for social services in Warren County. WCCS operates a wide range of programs and services that:

- Allow seniors and families to obtain and maintain long-term housing.
- Assist families and individuals with emergency needs, employment, and rising energy costs.
- Help older adults to remain active and independent.
- Prepare children to succeed in school.
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About Meals on Wheels America

Meals on Wheels America is the oldest and largest national organization supporting the more than 5,000 community-based programs across the country that are dedicated to addressing senior isolation and hunger. This network exists in virtually every community in America and, along with more than two million staff and volunteers, delivers the nutritious meals, friendly visits and safety checks that enable America's seniors to live nourished lives with independence and dignity. By providing funding, leadership, education, research and advocacy support, Meals on Wheels America empowers its local member programs to strengthen their communities, one senior at a time. For more information, or to find a Meals on Wheels provider near you, visit www.mealsonwheelsamerica.org.