

# NON-PROFIT *Spotlight*

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THE TIMES MEDIA  
COMPANY SALUTES ALL

NON-PROFIT  
ORGANIZATIONS  
SERVING

NORTHWEST INDIANA  
& SOUTHEAST SUBURBS OF  
CHICAGO



Meals on Wheels of Northwest Indiana (MOWNWI) prepares and delivers essential nutritious meals, promoting the health, wellness, and independence of members of our community, with the support of a diverse and engaged community network.

MOWNWI was established in July of 1977 by Margot Clark, a social worker with the Visiting Nurses Association (VNA). Clark started Meals on Wheels of Northwest Indiana as a service of the Visiting Nurse Association.

Today, the organization is led by CEO, Ryan Elinkowski. Ryan has spent the last 15 years serving adults, children, and families through his work at St. Jude House Domestic Violence Shelter and Prevention Center, and the Boys and Girls Clubs of Northwest Indiana.

MOWNWI has been delivering hot nutritious meals to the doorsteps of clients nearly 50 years. The organization has grown from serving just three meals in 1977 to now delivering 10,000 meals each week. MOWNWI also delivers supper meals, frozen meals, and meals to children at daycare centers and adults at numerous congregate sites throughout seven NWI counties including: Lake, Porter, Jasper, Newton, Starke, Pulaski and prepares the meals for the LaPorte County program. In 2025, MOWNWI produced and delivered a record number of 519,020 meals!



American Culinary Federation  
CHEFS OF NORTHWEST INDIANA



MEALS ON WHEELS  
NORTHWEST INDIANA

## ***Dine with the Chefs*** ***Sunday, March 1*** ***11 a.m. - 3 p.m.*** ***Avalon Manor, Merrillville***

Dine with the Chefs is a fun-filled afternoon of exquisite dining and beverages designed and prepared by local chefs.

The afternoon begins with specially curated hors d'oeuvres, mimosas, bloody and marys; followed by a sit down five-course gourmet meal.

Guests will also enjoy an impressive selection of silent auction offerings they can bid on throughout the course of the event and an exciting entertainment element you won't want to miss!

Individual tickets \$175 per person tables of eight or twelve can be purchased.

Sponsorship opportunities are also available.

**For tickets:**



**Or contact:**  
**Melissa Gonzalez**  
**219-756-3663**



Dine with the Chefs is our largest annual fundraiser. The event would not be possible without the immense generosity and talent of all participating chefs. Many of the chefs are part of the American Culinary Federation of Northwest Indiana. Our lead chef for the event Gabe Rosado, Executive Chef for Powers Health, (Hartsfield Village) is also the Chapter President and integral in pulling together the talented culinary team that will be joining us!

The funds raised from this event significantly impacts our ability to continue our mission. This year Dine with the Chefs will take place on Sunday, March 2 at Avalon Manor in Merrillville. Dine with the Chefs is a fun-filled afternoon of exquisite dining and beverages designed and prepared by local chefs. The afternoon begins with specially curated mimosas and bloody marys, followed by a sit down five-course gourmet meal. Guests will also enjoy an impressive selection of silent auction offerings they can bid on throughout the course of the event and an exciting entertainment element you won't want to miss!

Join us for this immersive gourmet dining experience! Individual tickets are \$175 per person and tables of eight or twelve can be purchased. Sponsorship opportunities are also available.