



## Partner Spotlight: Citymeals on Wheels



[Citymeals on Wheels](#), founded in 1981 by Gale Greene and James Beard, began with addressing the lack of meal deliveries on weekends and holidays to aging seniors in New York City. Citymeals delivers weekend, holiday and emergency meals to frail, aged New Yorkers, ensuring they never go a day without a nutritious meal and a warm visit. Throughout the years Citymeals has grown programmatically and has served over 56 million meals to homebound elderly. The majority of meal recipients subsist on very low incomes and

are unable to access local food pantries—an important source of help for those well enough to walk in and carry home groceries. Most of their meal recipients don't have the option of walking to a grocery store or a food pantry when their cupboards are bare—they are simply too old and frail. Almost all of their meal recipients use assistive devices for walking, and some use more than one. Many of them can hardly walk at all.

WSCAH was fortunate enough to have a deeper conversation with Citymeals while we were developing our Mobile Market and discussed the possibilities of working together. WSCAH was looking for warehouse space in Hunts Point, Bronx and Citymeals was seeking a way to grow their [Mobile Food Pantry](#), which provides supplementary meals for those most at risk for malnourishment. In August 2017, the WSCAH Mobile Market moved into Citymeals' warehouse in Hunts Point, Bronx and in October 2017, WSCAH began providing food to support Citymeals in expanding their Mobile Food Pantry meal bag program. The WSCAH Mobile Market procures food based on the USDA MyPlate standards, creating access to all 5 food groups, focusing on fruits and vegetables. After connecting deeper, both WSCAH and Citymeals realized how aligned they were in how they serve their customers with dignity and ensure access to healthy food.

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**DIGNITY. COMMUNITY. CHOICE.**

Citymeals on Wheels is a significant partner to West Side Campaign Against Mobile Market Program. In addition to sharing warehouse space, Citymeals and WSCAH are working in tandem to bring the highest quality food to hungry individuals and families all across New York City. With support from the WSCAH Mobile Market, Citymeals delivered over 300 meal bags for the Citymeals Mobile Food Pantry program since October 2017—all filled with healthy staples and fresh produce, ensuring that our elderly neighbors are not only fed, but fed well. Each bag also includes a recipe designed to utilize Citymeals' products in new and exciting ways! These meal bags are then delivered by volunteers to some of the city's most at-risk seniors living in Soundview, Bronx and Brownsville, Brooklyn—two neighborhoods facing extreme poverty, isolation, and which are both identified as food deserts. We are proud to partner with such an innovative and determined partner as Citymeals on Wheels to eliminate hunger among New York City's most vulnerable citizens.

