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MEALS ON WHEELS PEOPLE SPRING LUNCHEON RAISES FUNDS TO PROVIDE 65,500 HOT MEALS TO SENIORS

(May 11, 2016 – Portland Ore.) Supporters and volunteers of Meals on Wheels People donated enough funds in just one hour to provide 65,500 hot meals to older adults in the greater metro at the organization's Spring Luncheon presented by **New Seasons Market**. The annual event, in combination with a similar event held in Clark County last month, raised nearly \$500,000. During the event, Vital Life Foundation announced a special gift of \$90,000.

More than 800 area business leaders and volunteers gathered in the Oregon Convention Center on May 5 to hear Meals on Wheels People volunteers Mary Edmeades, Deanna Allred and Teri Karren-Keith from Albina Bank, deliver a keynote address. They shared their experiences with delivering meals to the elderly out of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Center and encouraged those in attendance to join them as volunteers. **Sally Showman**, KOIN Meteorologist, and Meals on Wheels People volunteer, was the emcee for the event.

Vital Life Foundation received the Compassion for Seniors Award. Over the past seven years, Vital Life Foundation, a Marquis and Consonus Foundation, has donated more than \$250,000 to Meals on Wheels People and their staff and residents have volunteered countless hours to assist with events, create centerpieces and cards for our clients, serve as Meals on Wheels drivers and on dining center steering committees. A grant from Vital Life Foundation helped purchase a van, which is used daily to transport meals around the metro area.

New Seasons Market was the event presenting sponsor. Other sponsors included: O'Donnell Clark & Crew—Mark P. O'Donnell, Regence BlueCross BlueShield, Becker Capital Management, The Clark Foundation, Enterprise Fleet Management, Endeavor Capitol, Hoffman Construction, Legacy Health, Trailblazer Foods, Walter E. Nelson Company, Western Family, American Nutrition, Chevron, E C Company, Gramor Development, Landmark Ford Lincoln, The Lampros Family, PacTrust Realty, Providence Health & Services, Sunshine Dairy Foods and Union Bank. Paradym Events created the centerpieces.

About Meals on Wheels People: Since 1970 Meals on Wheels People has provided a nutritional and social lifeline for seniors through 30 meal sites in Multnomah, Washington and Clark counties and Meals on Wheels delivery to homebound seniors.

With the help of 8,000 volunteers, the nonprofit organization now serves 5,700 meals daily and 1.3 million meals each year. Visit: mealsonwheelspeople.org.

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