



For Immediate Release

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Local Business, The Range Café, Donates More Than \$44,000.00 to Meals on Wheels

The Range Cafe Will Continue to Support Meal Delivery Nonprofit, approaching its 50th Year

November 11 – Albuquerque – Iconic local restaurant, Range Café, has provided more than 6,150 meals to hungry New Mexicans by supporting local charity, Meals on Wheels of Albuquerque.

Over the past 2 years, Range Café has raised more than \$44,300.00, all donated to Meals on Wheels, which provides meals tailored to specific medical needs for homebound people all across Albuquerque and Rio Rancho.

“The Range Café is easily one of the biggest donors to Meals on Wheels of Albuquerque this year and last,” says Shauna Frost, Executive Director of Meals on Wheels.

And what’s most interesting is that the funds have all been given by generous Range Café customers.

“Albuquerque is one of the most giving, most caring cities that anyone could live in,” says Matt DiGregory, Owner & CEO of the Range Café. “Consistently, reliably, whenever Burqueños know about a need, they rush in to not just meet it, but exceed it.”

For the past 2 years Range Café has been including a “charity” line to all sales receipts. Range Café guests who wish to contribute to Meals on Wheels simply need to add a dollar amount (that Range Café will round up to the nearest .10 cents) on the charity line when they close their check.

And they’re not finished yet - over the next year, Range Café hopes to average at least \$5,000+ a month to contribute to the goals of Meals on Wheels.

“Everyone deserves a healthy meal,” says DiGregory. “Meals on Wheels provides a vital service to people who don’t have the ability to shop or cook for themselves. We’re proud to support their work.”



Meals on Wheels is the only organization in the region that provides hand-prepared, home-delivered meals with 8 different medical/dietary options that serves anyone regardless of age, ability or financial need.

“We always say we serve any person of any age for any reason,” says Frost, who, herself, served as a volunteer driver for 7 years before joining the staff and who regularly helps prep meals.

The partnership between Meals on Wheels and Range Café has been beneficial in responding to the needs of the organization and the clients it serves, particularly during COVID-19 pandemic.

“Last year, we saw a 440% increase in calls for help,” says Frost. That’s also when Range Café saw customers greatly stepping up their fundraising efforts, helping meet that increased need.

Also, during the pandemic, Meals on Wheels expanded to state-wide overnight shipments of frozen meals. Still keeping their goal of diverse and delicious meals in mind, this new option allows them to deliver a week’s worth of frozen meals to clients in need all over the state.

Meals on Wheels is a non-profit that depends on donations from many individuals and companies throughout the nation. It offers a huge benefit to the community and fills needs not met by anyone else. With donations from individuals and companies, they can continue to grow and do more. **You can donate directly to Meals on Wheels by going to <http://mow-nm.org/donate> or by dining at Range Café.**

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About Meals on Wheels of Albuquerque: Meals on Wheels of Albuquerque has provided fresh meals to the community for almost 50 years. It is entirely locally operated, affiliated in name only with the national organization. Since their start in 1972, Meals on Wheels of Albuquerque estimates its delivered more than 15 million meals to New Mexicans in need. With a diverse team of volunteers and dedicated staff they currently serve 1,500 clients each year and provide hot, hand-prepared, home-delivered meals 5 days a week.

One meal costs \$7.20 for Meals on Wheels to prepare and deliver – that includes locally-sourced fresh and packaged ingredients (like green and red chile), meal preparation, packaging and delivery. More than 500 dedicated Volunteers each year deliver meals to homebound New Mexicans Monday through Friday, all year long.

About The Range Café: The original Range Café was started in 1992 by Tom Fenton and Matt DiGregory in Bernalillo, New Mexico in a funky, 56-seat former gas station. In 1995 the original building was destroyed by a devastating fire. In 1996 the Range Café opened its current location and has been serving up “ordinary food done extraordinarily well” ever since. The original location also features Home at The Range gift shop with lots of locally produced cool stuff you don’t really need. With a full bar and live free music in the Lizard Rodeo Lounge, the Range in Bernalillo is a great destination spot. Now with four locations in Albuquerque and one in Los Lunas, the Range Café continues to be a locally owned favorite.