



Thanksgiving FAQ

What is IM's Meals on Wheels Thanksgiving?

Meals on Wheels Thanksgiving has previously been an opportunity for the city of Houston and neighboring Galveston County to participate in delivering Meals on Wheels to homebound seniors on Thanksgiving Day. This year things are different due to COVID-19. We must comply with safety regulations and our goal is always to keep our seniors, volunteers, and staff safe. This year we are by inviting volunteers to call Meals on Wheels seniors and wish them a "Happy Thanksgiving". This is a special opportunity to engage with our seniors and help ease loneliness. Our seniors will receive their special holiday meal, as they do every year. For 2021, that meal will be delivered by the friendly MOW staff member who visits them regularly.

How do I participate?

Sign-up online and chose your volunteer type (Virtual Volunteer or fundraise only.)

<https://www.imgh.org/events/thanksgiving2021/>

Is there a deadline to sign up?

Yes. Sign-ups for The Friendly Neighbor Volunteer Callers will close on Sunday, Nov. 21, 2021, at midnight. The list may close sooner, if the need has been met.

Don't delay. Register TODAY! 😊

I can't volunteer on Thanksgiving Day. Can I still help?

Yes! You can sign-up to fundraise and we will email you information about fundraising with your peers. Social media posts and emails to your family and friends have had great success in the past as you ask for their help providing holiday meals for seniors on Thanksgiving Day and beyond.

Can you please describe the types of volunteers?

Virtual Volunteer—volunteer to call at least 10 homebound seniors in Houston on Thanksgiving Day and wish them a “Happy Thanksgiving”

Fundraise - Even if you can't serve on Thanksgiving Day, you can still fundraise on behalf of homebound seniors and help provide holiday meals to seniors! Click [here](#) to donate.

What time does the event start and end?

This event is virtual, but we want to make sure you have the best chance of reaching the seniors you're calling. We will let them know to expect a call on the morning of Thanksgiving Day. Please plan to be available for this volunteer service between 9:00 AM and 11:00 AM on Thanksgiving morning.

Where is the event?

This event is virtual! You can make calls from your living room, bedroom, backyard...wherever you feel most comfortable! A quiet place, with minimal background noise, is recommended.

What do I need to participate?

To participate as a virtual volunteer, you will need a smartphone, computer or laptop and internet connection. Interfaith Ministries will provide you with access to a Virtual Phone Bank and a local phone number. You will make the calls from your device, using its microphone. You will not need to use your personal phone and your phone number will not be visible to the folks you are calling. The phone bank will dial and track your calls for you! How cool is that?

Is training required?

A detailed User Guide and instructions will be sent to the email with which you register. Stay tuned to your email for details!

Is this a kid-friendly event?

Of course! Families and children are welcome. This is a great opportunity for families to volunteer together, right in their own homes!

Remember: Many of our seniors are hard of hearing, so we encourage you to speak one at a time and as clearly as you can. 😊

How long will it take me to volunteer?

Please allow at least 90 minutes, beginning at 9:00 AM, to make your calls. You are calling Meals on Wheels seniors and wishing them “Happy Thanksgiving”. With some, conversation may naturally flow. Others may be brief interactions. All will make a big impact!

Do I have to fundraise to participate?

You do not have to fundraise to participate.

How do I make calls?

Volunteers will be using a Virtual Phone Banking tool. Volunteers will be able to quickly and seamlessly dial landline and cell phone numbers with the click of a button from within any browser or device, all from a local area code number. A more in-depth User Guide, with all the details you will need, will be provided to volunteers, as our event nears.