



Meals on Wheels[™]
New South Wales

26th July 2024

MEDIA RELEASE: HELP US, HELP OUR ELDERLY

Show your support by signing our online petition at <https://www.change.org/p/stand-up-for-seniors-advocate-for-accessible-nutrition>

The Board, Staff, and Volunteers of IC Care request the need of the entire community to get behind us and assist us in advocating for more government funding. IC Care is the primary Meals on Wheels service provider in the area.... if we do not provide a meal who does?

Our area is vast hence the accessibility to public transport is limited or non-existent and this makes our transport arm even more critical for the health and wellbeing of our ageing population.

IC Care aims to gain support for services such as Meals on Wheels and Community Transport in the area so they can once again say "Yes" to prospective clients. Currently, IC Care has had to close its books to new clients as its existing services are at capacity based on existing Federal Government Department of Health and Aged Care funding.

For many years, IC Care has been covering the shortfall of inadequate Government Funding and is no longer in a position to remain viable if they continue to do this, resulting in any new client enquiries being rejected for meal deliveries through Meals on Wheels, and transportation to necessary medical appointments via their Transport arm.

The increasing demand for these services with the Wollondilly's growing aging population, coupled with limited financial resources, has created an urgent need for additional funding to ensure that Seniors living in the local government area are not left without the essential services they require to maintain their independence and quality of life within their own home.

IC Care has been operating in the Wollondilly community for 49 years and this is the first time they have had to say "No".

"It's hard to say that I can't help," says Nicole, Executive Assistant of Programs at IC Care.

"I've never had to say no to anyone and having to do this for the first time in over 20 years, it's really hurting."

Help us to help our elderly stay in their homes in the later part of their life.
Help us to give our elderly the voice that needs to be heard.

We ask again if we do not provide these services Who does?

Meals on Wheels NSW

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**More
than just
a meal**

IC Care urges members of the community to sign and share the petition to help amplify their message and ensure that elderly individuals receive the care and support they deserve.

ENDS

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Meals on Wheels NSW

About NSW Meals on Wheels

Meals on Wheels NSW is the peak body organisation that represents over 130 Meals on Wheels Service providers, who collectively utilise over 14,000 volunteers and deliver 4.5 million meals each year in both metro, regional and rural areas in NSW.

Committed to supporting the wellbeing and interests of older Australians, Meals on Wheels NSW works with these groups and the community to raise awareness and lobby for action around the importance of good nutrition and social connection.

Meals on Wheels services has been delivering nutritious meals, social connection and wellbeing checks within Australian communities for 70 years.

To find out more, visit the Meals on Wheels NSW website at

nswmealsonwheels.org.au

or follow on Instagram at [@mownsw](https://www.instagram.com/mownsw)

About IC Care

IC Care is a small not-for-profit community organisation working in the Wollondilly and Camden Local Government Areas. This service supports frail older people (aged 65 years and over; 50 and over for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people) who require assistance with daily living to remain living independently at home and in the community. IC Care are a member of Meals on Wheels NSW.

<https://iccare.org.au/>

