



Imagine this...you live alone. This morning around 11:00, there is a knock on your door. Your heart leaps with joy because you know that Meals-on-Wheels has arrived and that the knock will be followed by a nutritious hot meal, a warm smile and the comforting thought that someone cares. This is the reality for hundreds of Meals-on-Wheels recipients who rely on Senior Services each weekday. Now, imagine that those knocks on the door stop.

As our community, nation, and in fact the world face one of the most challenging tests of our lifetimes through the Covid-19 virus, it is imperative that we meet and overcome this obstacle together. Senior Services has been working to meet the needs of older adults in Forsyth County since 1962 and we are committed to continuing to ensure every senior in our community is able to remain in their home, living with dignity and aging with purpose. That will not change, even in the face of the Coronavirus.

Almost 2,000 older adults who are in need of support continue to depend on us to provide nutrition and care. With the help of hundreds of steadfast volunteers, our staff of dedicated professionals continues to address local needs through multiple programs including Meals-on-Wheels, Home Care, and our award-winning Williams Adult Day Center. However, we understand that this virus has required and will continue to require us to make adjustments in the way that we go about fulfilling our mission.

Senior Services is continually monitoring updates related to the spread of the Coronavirus carefully. We understand that while most people who become infected experience mild illness and recover, it can be more severe and even life threatening for people with compromised or already weakened immune systems - such as many of the seniors we serve. With that in mind, we have posted guidelines and recommendations at seniorservicesinc.org for volunteers, staff and program participants to help limit the risk of spreading the virus.

Our staff and volunteers are working tirelessly to assure that meals will continue to be provided even as we adjust delivery methods to reduce the risk of exposure for participants, volunteers, and staff. Our Williams Adult Day Center remains open to care for participants living with memory loss and we have implemented additional protocols to help keep participants and staff safe and healthy. Home Care aides have been trained to adhere to the latest recommendations provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) as well as local health professionals to reduce the risks of contamination while continuing to provide necessary in-home support to the people we serve.

We appreciate the incredible generosity of the thousands of volunteers and donors who give of themselves to help us bring our mission to life each and every day, including those who have stepped up recently in response to this crisis. As we face an unknown future together, your continued support will surely sustain and strengthen us as we work through this difficult time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "J. Lee Covington". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.