

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Daughters of Penelope Donates \$10,000 to Meals on Wheels America**

The Daughters of Penelope (DOP), a leading international service organization comprised of women of Hellenic heritage and Philhellenes, proudly presented a \$10,000 donation to Meals on Wheels America, September 21, 2023, announced Grand President Marianthi Treppiedi. Grand President Treppiedi presented the donation to Meals on Wheels America President and CEO Ellie Hollander.

“We are proud to support the worthy mission of Meals on Wheels America and its vision of an America in which all seniors live nourished lives with independence and dignity,” Grand President Treppiedi said. “We present our donation during both Malnutrition Awareness Week and Falls Prevention Awareness Week, and hope we can assist, in a modest way, senior nutrition programs such as Meals on Wheels, that play a critical role in combating senior hunger, malnutrition, falls and isolation.”

Treppiedi also informed Hollander that the Grand President's National Project this year is to encourage Daughters chapters to support their local Meals on Wheels programs.

“Our country is facing a looming senior hunger cliff as the need intensifies, food and gas prices remain high, philanthropic support wanes, and federal funding falls woefully short,” said Ellie Hollander, President and CEO of Meals on Wheels America. “We commend and thank the Daughters of Penelope for recognizing the growing unmet need, continuing to generously step up to the plate, and through President Treppiedi’s call to action, to encourage Daughters chapters to support their local Meals on Wheels providers.”

This is the sixth \$10,000 donation in as many years to Meals on Wheels America, which is the leading organization to address senior hunger and isolation.

“Our support of Meals on Wheels America dovetails with our community service programs that assist our nation’s older adults who are in need,” Treppiedi added. “For example, Meals on Wheels serves many residents of AHEPA’s and Daughters’ 87 affordable senior housing communities.”

“The Daughters of Penelope is grateful to the AHEPA National Housing Corporation for awarding us a grant to make this donation possible,” Treppiedi said.

Executive Director Elena Saviolakis and Grand Governor Linda Belba accompanied Grand President Treppiedi to the presentation. Meals on Wheels America’s Senior Director of Individual Giving Christina Logothetis Ritchie accompanied President and CEO Hollander.

### **About Meals on Wheels America**

Meals on Wheels America is the leadership organization supporting the more than 5,000 community-based programs across the country that are dedicated to addressing senior hunger and isolation. Powered by a dedicated volunteer workforce, this network delivers the nutritious meals, friendly visits and safety checks that enable America's seniors to live nourished lives with independence and dignity. By providing funding, programming, education, research and advocacy, Meals on Wheels America empowers its local member programs to strengthen their communities, one senior at a time. For more information, or to find a Meals on Wheels provider near you, visit [www.mealsonwheelsamerica.org](http://www.mealsonwheelsamerica.org).

## About the Daughters of Penelope

Founded in San Francisco in 1929, the Daughters of Penelope (DOP) is the first women's service organization of its kind established in the United States. It is an affiliate organization of the American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association (Order of AHEPA).

The mission of the DOP is to promote the ancient Greek ideals of Hellenism, Education, Philanthropy, Civic Responsibility, and Family and Individual Excellence.

For more information about the DOP, or any of its programs or projects, please visit [www.daughtersofpenelope.org](http://www.daughtersofpenelope.org).

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*Grand President Marianthi Treppiedi presenting a \$10,000 donation to Meals on Wheels on behalf of the Daughters of Penelope to Meals on Wheels President and Chief Executive Officer Ellie Hollander. L to R: Grand Governor Linda Belba, DOP Executive Director Elena Saviolakis, DOP Grand President Marianthi Treppiedi, Meals on Wheels President and Chief Executive Officer Ellie Hollander, and Meals on Wheels Senior Director of Individual Giving Christina Logothetis Ritchie.*