

# Neighbors helping neighbors

*Des Plaines foundation, local businesses serve Thanksgiving meal to the disabled, seniors*

Submitted by Aimee L. DeBat

The Des Plaines Community Foundation, Sunrise Grill and Sysco Chicago worked together to provide and deliver Thanksgiving Day dinners to more than 283 individuals, homebound seniors and people with disabilities.

"This is our 10th year making the meals and delivering the turkey dinners," said Rosemary Argus, executive director of the foundation. "It's a group effort. Turkey dinners were delivered to those in wheelchairs, on oxygen and the blind, all those who have difficulty leaving their homes."

Sunrise Grill, 1928-30 E. Touhy Ave., joined in on the Thanksgiving Day dinners. Owner chef Jose Medina and his wife Maria, their three sons and friends, as well as staff, donated their time and skill to help DPCF on Thanksgiving. The Medinas roasted the turkey breasts and fixings for the dinners this year.

Sysco Chicago provided 160 pounds of turkey breasts, vegetables and potatoes. Volunteers packaged the corn, sweet potatoes, main entree, bread and pumpkin pie.

In addition to the dinner, Northwest Suburban Day Care provided handmade place mats for each meal, which included handprints made into turkeys and the words "Happy Thanksgiving."

According to Argus, the list of people who were served through the Thanksgiving Day program consisted of Des Plaines residents who requested assistance by calling the Neighbors Helping Neighbors hotline at (888) 646-8898.

Everyone on both the Neighbors Helping Neighbors list and the Des Plaines church lists were called to confirm they would be home



The Des Plaines Community Foundation, Sunrise Grill and Sysco Chicago worked together to provide and deliver Thanksgiving Day dinners to more than 283 individuals, homebound seniors and people with disabilities.

on Thanksgiving to receive their cooked meal.

Local volunteers, including a large number from Sysco Foods, delivered meals between 10 a.m. and noon on Thanksgiving Day. DPCF board trustees who came to work were Rich Holke, president, Kathy Puetz, Bob Argus and Chris Peterson.

Brothers Tanner, Trevor, and Paul DuVair helped coordinate the driver pickup and brought the food to the drivers' cars.

The Mount Prospect Kids Pantry donated 300 pounds of Peet's Coffee so they could put a pound of coffee in every bag with each person's dinner.

Sysco Chicago also recently donated \$15,000 to support Des Plaines Community Foundation programs. The



From left, brothers Trevor, Tanner and Paul DuVair; driver and former Des Plaines police officer Kevin Boyd; and Bob Argus go over the routes for delivering Thanksgiving Day meals.

donation was a result of the Sysco Chicago's "Nourishing Neighbors" initiative for

community outreach in the city of Des Plaines. "Nourishing Neighbors

is an endeavor that directs Sysco's charitable donations primarily to local agencies working to get healthy and nutritious food where it's needed," said Lynne England administrative assistant-sales at Sysco Chicago, Inc. "We care for people by giving back, doing well and changing lives in our communities."

Argus said a donation of this magnitude goes a long way to enhance the programs that provide direct services to those in need.

"We are honored that Sysco Chicago chose to support the vital work we do in the community to heal and strengthen the lives of children and families," said Argus.

"We are fortunate to have such a support system of sponsors, friends and family that have come together to help the DPCF initiatives. This is a really touching program to provide for these families. We appreciate all the volunteers' hard work on Thanksgiving Day. This is one of the most satisfying things that we've done."

Neighbors Helping Neighbors delivers on about 500 requests for help from Des Plaines residents in need every year. The program links the community with information on where they can get financial assistance and where food can be received.

All residents have to do is call the Neighbors Helping Neighbors Hot Line, (888) 646-8898, and request help.

Every year the DPCF and Sysco Chicago have worked together to provide, cook and deliver Thanksgiving Day dinners. The foundation also helps to keep the elderly living in their homes for as long as possible, helping to cut the grass, shovel snow

and provide emergency plumbing, electrical, heating and air conditioning repairs as they occur.

"We want seniors to live with dignity and independence for as long as possible," said Argus.

The Des Plaines Community Foundation recently donated \$15,000 to area food pantries. The donations were split between three local food pantries, including Self Help Pantry of Des Plaines, Maine Township Food Pantry and Elk Grove Township Food Pantry.

"DPCF also granted \$3,000 to Bessie's Table, \$3,000 to Catholic Charities and \$3,000 to Feed My Starving Children — all of which provide weekly drive-through food dinners," said Holke.

"Our foundation donates to all the local pantries, as well as many of the religious organizations that provide meals during the week for the needy of Des Plaines," Argus added.

Some of the programs include Neighbors Helping Neighbors Program Committee; Healthy Community/Healthy Youth Program Committee; Intergenerational Program Committee; and Seasons of Service Program Committee.

The foundation has no paid employees and is 100% volunteer. The foundation is a 501c3 organization and funds are obtained from individuals, businesses, and corporate tax-deductible contributions as well as from other foundations.

For information on becoming a student volunteer, visit [www.desplainescommunityfoundation.org](http://www.desplainescommunityfoundation.org). Future volunteers can call Rosemary Argus at (847) 525-5566.

## Brand Insights

Presented by Mount Prospect Senior Living

### Mount Prospect Senior Living Installs State-Of-The-Art Sanitization Solutions and Family Lounges For Safe Visitation

Mount Prospect Senior Living, a new assisted living and memory care community operated by Integral Senior Living (ISL), has announced that it is expanding its deployment of Healthe's state-of-the-art sanitization solutions to Illinois. ISL was the first senior living operator in the U.S. to deploy Healthe's sanitization solutions earlier this year. Developed by Melbourne, Fla.-based Healthe, Inc., these products include their Healthe ENTRY™ and Healthe AIRTM solutions:

Healthe ENTRY™ utilizes far-UVC light to safely sanitize a person's clothing and personal belongings. This exciting technology works when our residents, associates and guests pass through its sanitizing light waves as they enter the community. Acting as the first line of defense against pathogens and viruses in an occupied space, Healthe ENTRY™ is a walk-through arch sanitization portal, similar to an airport screening detector, that uses far-UVC 222 light to remove

up to 90% of the viral load on a person's clothes and belongings in just 20 seconds.

"The well-being of our residents, associates and guests is our top priority. These innovative products utilize far-UVC light, which scientific studies have proved to inactivate coronaviruses, and provide additional layers of sanitization beyond the significant protective measures we have already taken to safeguard our community," said Collette Gray, ISL's president and CEO. "We are excited to install this cutting-edge protective technology to protect our community."

**Mount Prospect Senior Living has also integrated a wide variety of design elements and state-of-the-art sanitizing technologies to protect its residents, associates and guests. These include:**

- **Safe Family Lounges** where residents can privately visit with loved ones in specialized rooms that separate inside and outside environments. These lounges provide a great opportunity to visit with loved ones, even when safety protocols prevent family members from coming inside the community.

- **Needlepoint Bipolar Ionization Systems** to sanitize air in our common areas and help protect residents and associates from illness. These systems utilize ozone-free, seek-and-inactivate air-purification technology to disable a variety of pathogens such as norovirus, MRSA and SARS-CoV-2.

- **Electrostatic handheld sprayers** are regularly used throughout our community to eliminate viruses and other pathogens on, under and around surfaces, furniture and equipment. The sprayers disperse charged droplets that adhere safe, sanitizing chemicals to surfaces for an unrivaled 360-degree coverage. This ensures faster, safer and more consistent cleansing and disinfecting.

- **An Accushield thermal temperature scanning kiosk** screens those entering our community for elevated temperatures and other risk factors to limit resident and staff exposure to illness.

- **Microbicidal paint applied to handrails** – one of our community's most commonly touched surfaces – to fight pathogens. This EPA-registered paint kills greater than 99.9%

of bacteria within two hours of exposure on a painted surface.

Fresh, filtered outside air provided to every apartment (even if its windows are closed). "Now, more than ever, is the time to make the move to a senior living community," said Kim Zamora, Mount Prospect Senior Living executive director. "We encourage anyone who is considering senior living to visit our Welcome Center or contact us for a virtual tour and learn more about how we plan to keep our residents active, healthy and connected once our doors are open."

**About Mount Prospect Senior Living**  
Located at 1111 South Linneman Road in Mount Prospect. For more information or to arrange a tour, visit us at [www.mountprospectseniorliving.com](http://www.mountprospectseniorliving.com) or on Facebook, or call (847) 250-6029.

**About Integral Senior Living**  
For more information about ISL, visit us at [www.isllc.com](http://www.isllc.com), our blog or connect on Facebook.

**About Healthe**  
Healthe is the technology leader in developing and deploying sanitization, circadian and biological lighting solutions. Learn more at [www.healtheinc.com](http://www.healtheinc.com) and connect on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn and Instagram.



**MOUNT PROSPECT**  
SENIOR LIVING

**847-250-6029**  
1111 South Linneman Road,  
Mount Prospect, IL 60056  
[MountProspectSeniorLiving.com](http://MountProspectSeniorLiving.com)

