

Richard - 9/13/13

Drivers needed to deliver meals in Eastlake and Wickliffe

MENTOR - The Lake County Council on Aging's Meals on Wheels program has an urgent need of volunteer drivers to deliver meals to the elderly and disabled in Wickliffe and Eastlake.

"Some of our volunteers that are currently delivering, are driving additional routes to fulfill the need in these two areas," said Joe Tomsick, executive director of the Council on Aging. "We want to make sure everyone who

needs meals has a chance to get them."

Meals on Wheels meets two essential requirements - the service ensures clients receive a healthy, well-balanced daily meal to prevent malnutrition, and second, the regular contact by a volunteer driver helps monitor a person's well-being.

"This is a chance to do something very simple, but to also make a difference in someone's life and well-being,"

said Lauren MacLaren, coordinator for the agency's over 500 volunteers. "Meal-delivery volunteers are a critical part of our community services and this current need is especially urgent."

Volunteer drivers deliver lunchtime meals and a friendly "hello" to homebound seniors one weekday each week between 10:30 a.m. and noon. The volunteer picks up meals from a Lake County nutrition site

near their home or office and makes 10 to 14 stops on an efficiently planned route to drop off each client's meal. About an hour later, all of the meals have been delivered, and volunteers continue their planned activities for the day.

Anyone who can assist in this time of urgent need should call the Volunteer Specialist, Lauren MacLaren at (440) 205-8111, ext. 228 or email LaurenM@lcco.org for more information.