

coal creek  
**Meals on Wheels**

Lafayette, Louisville, Erie & Superior  
455 North Burlington Avenue  
Lafayette, CO 80026



Visit us online at [www.coalcreekmow.org](http://www.coalcreekmow.org)!

**50 YEARS**  
Serving more than a meal since 1972!



**September 10, 2022 4 - 7 PM**  
**At Steinbaugh Pavilion in Louisville**

Join us for a fun, retro-inspired afternoon in celebration of CCMOW's 50th Anniversary, featuring: Live Tunes from 70's Disco Tribute Band: Boogie Machine, Photos in The Original Shutterbus Vintage Photo Booth, A 70's Costume Contest, A Silent Auction, Food, Drinks, and More!



Ticket Sales are LIVE, buy yours today at: [one.bidpal.net/50yearsofcmow](http://one.bidpal.net/50yearsofcmow)

Thank you to our Sponsors!



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June 2022

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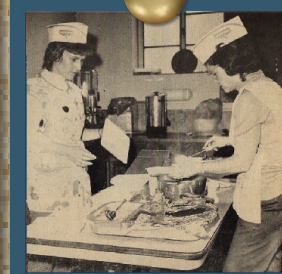
**OUR 50 YEARS OF SERVICE**  
**AT A GLANCE**



Original Board of Directors, 1972

**1972**

Meals on Wheels of East Boulder County was founded in 1972. The organization was established by Lafayette resident, Sue Marolf, a Board of Directors, and two staff members in the basement of the Lafayette First Methodist Church (currently home to the Center for Musical Arts). The founders were members of the First United Methodist Church. Meals on Wheels of East Boulder County delivered their first meals on December 4, 1972.



Sue Marolf and a Kitchen Volunteer, 1973

**1973**

Meals on Wheels of East Boulder County became a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization.



First United Methodist Church New Building Tour, 1999

**1999**

Construction of the new First United Methodist Church building was completed in 1999. CCMOW moved in and used their new commercial kitchen to continue providing meals to members of the community.



Melinda at the Lafayette Oatmeal Festival, 2010

**2010**

The organization hired its first paid Director, Melinda Hall. Melinda led the organization from 2009-2011 and set the stage for CCMOW to continue to grow and thrive.



CCMOW's logos over time

**2012**

In 2012, we went through a rebranding and became Coal Creek Meals on Wheels to help us distinguish ourselves from Boulder Meals on Wheels. The cities we serve was added to the logo in February 2020.



Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony at Josephine Commons, 2015

**2015**

In 2015, the organization moved from its original location, the First United Methodist Church of Lafayette, to Josephine Commons.

## Looking Back and Planning for the Future of CCMOW

Fifty years ago a group of Lafayette residents, under the leadership of Sue Marolf, joined forces to establish a Meals on Wheels program to serve East Boulder County in the basement of the Lafayette First United Methodist Church. On December 4, 1972 the newly founded Meals on Wheels of East Boulder County (MOWEBC) delivered its first meal of ham, scalloped potatoes, grated carrot & raisin salad, a whole wheat roll, and chocolate pudding to 15 clients for a set price of \$1.00/meal.

Since 1972, MOWEBC has undergone significant growth and change, including a rebranding as Coal Creek Meals on Wheels (CCMOW) in 2012 (named after the creek running through the four communities we serve), and our move to our current location at Josephine Commons in 2015. We've gone from serving 15 meals a day, to serving more than 160 meals a day - and from a volunteer-run organization to a staff of nine. Over the last 50 years we have served more than 800,000 meals in the communities of Lafayette, Louisville, Erie & Superior!

As we celebrate the past 50 years of service to our community, we are also planning for the future of CCMOW through an in-depth strategic planning process. While we are still in the beginning phases of our strategic planning efforts, there are a few things we have already identified as areas we want to focus on in the coming years:

**We want to serve more people.** We know there are other members of the community who would benefit from our services, and we need to do a better job of making them aware of our services, and overcoming any barriers that may prevent them from accessing our services.

**We want to be thoughtful about our growth efforts to ensure that we don't lose our grassroots community feel.** While there are certainly more people to serve, we need to thoughtfully plan for the space, facility, and staffing needs to facilitate growth in a way that protects our organizational superpower - our people (staff and volunteers).

**We want to continue to improve our services for our clients** to ensure that we are providing high-quality meals, making the most of our social contact with clients, and building our pool of resources to make sure that clients have access to other services they need.

As we continue to plan for our future, one thing is certain: we can't do this important work without the support and generosity of our community. 95% of our clients are unable to contribute the full cost of a meal, which means we rely on the generosity of donors and partners to subsidize their meals. As inflation continues to increase, it becomes harder and harder for vulnerable members of our community to afford to buy groceries while paying for increased medical expenses and other living expenses.

Thank you for supporting our mission. As always, donations can be made through our website at [coalcreekmow.org/support](https://coalcreekmow.org/support), and we hope to see you at our 50th Anniversary Celebration on September 10, 2022. Learn more on our event site - <https://one.bidpal.net/50yearsofccmow>.



CCMOW Volunteer delivering client's meal, 2015



The organization's 25th Anniversary Celebration, 1997



Vada Brack making chili for the 1996 "Get it While it's Hot" Chili Fundraiser



Dolores and her friends at the Coal Creek Cafe



Dolores and Chuck Silva, 1948



Dolores Silva, 2017



Dolores and Chuck Silva with their friend Ellen Cook

## A Coal Creek Family Connection

In celebration of Coal Creek Meals on Wheels' (CCMOW) 50th Anniversary, we want to highlight a special family, The Silva Family, who has been connected to the Lafayette community well before, and throughout the history of CCMOW. The Silvas, one of Lafayette's original Latino families, have lived locally since the early 1900s.

Over the years, two generations of the Silva Family have been linked to CCMOW as both volunteers and diners at the Coal Creek Café – CCMOW's older adult social dining program at Josephine Commons in partnership with the City of Lafayette.

Most Mondays through Fridays, Chuck Silva picks up his 93-year old mother, Dolores, from her Lafayette home and drives down the road to Josephine Commons, where they meet their dear family friend, Ellen Cook, at 11:30 a.m. for lunch at the Coal Creek Café. On Tuesdays and Thursdays, they stay after lunch to mingle with friends and help Dolores settle in for bingo, one of her favorite weekly activities.

"It's good for mom (Dolores) to come here to eat and hang out with her friends, especially because she lives alone and it can get lonely sometimes," says her son, Chuck.

Dolores has lived in Lafayette for 77 years. Her father was from Pueblo, Colorado and her mother was from Taos, New Mexico. Dolores was born and raised in Denver but had a sister who lived in Lafayette, and would come to visit her often. During one of these visits Dolores met her soon-to-be husband, Manuel "Manny" Silva, a Lafayette native who worked in the local coal mines. Dolores married Manny and moved to his family farm on Coal Creek in Lafayette where they raised their two children. "I grew up on my family's farm on Coal Creek right over there," says Chuck pointing South from the entrance of Josephine Commons, the home of CCMOW. This was my playground as a kid!"

Chuck's parents first learned about CCMOW through the Lafayette Senior Center, where they would go each day for lunch. When CCMOW moved to Josephine Commons in 2015, they started attending CCMOW's daily older adult congregate lunch program. "When my dad was alive, we had a routine – we would go to McDonald's each morning for breakfast, no matter rain or shine, or snow, and then we would come here for lunch so they could eat with their friends - they have lots of friends and know everybody."

When Dolores walks into the cafe, you can tell that she is happy to be here as she exchanges hugs and kisses on the cheeks with her long-time friends, and that her presence is an important piece of the CCMOW community. For neighbors like Dolores, CCMOW has offered a unique space for older adults in our community to thrive and experience the powerful benefits of interpersonal relationships and connectivity for half a century.

Over a decade ago, before they began bringing Dolores and Manny to CCMOW for lunch, Chuck and Ellen first met as volunteers through the local Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Mile High Post #1771. "The VFW was really good about connecting us with organizations that needed volunteers," says Ellen. This is how Ellen first became connected with CCMOW as a kitchen volunteer when the organization was still located at the First United Methodist Church of Lafayette. Ellen and Chuck generously volunteered in the CCMOW kitchen for ten years together and officially "retired" right before the pandemic.