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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**COUNCIL ON AGING RELAUNCHES “ADOPT-A-ROUTE” PROGRAM FOR  
BUSINESSES AND ORGANIZATIONS TO CONNECT WITH  
MEALS ON WHEELS**

(Daytona Beach, FL – June 18, 2020)—Council on Aging of Volusia County (COA) is relaunching its “Adopt-a-Route” program, seeking to connect Volusia County businesses and organizations with the COA Meals on Wheels program. With the exponential growth in recent months of the meal delivery program, more volunteers are needed to help at-risk seniors. “Adopt-a-Route” will involve local businesses and community organizations committing four or more employees or members for a minimum of two hours each week to deliver meals for a period of at least six months. During that time, the meal routes will be named after the business, organization, or group. Partners also will be recognized on COA’s website and social media platforms and in COA’s quarterly newsletter.

Meal deliveries are scheduled mid-day on weekdays, and volunteers choose routes from one to five days each week. Gladys Lacen, COA’s Manager of Recreation, Nutrition, and Respite Programs, says, “We are flexible with volunteer scheduling, as we are mindful of the commitment people are making.” She adds that all volunteers are provided with hand sanitizer, face masks, and gloves. Delivery routes are available in Deltona, Orange City, DeLand, Daytona Beach, Holly Hill, Port Orange, New Smyrna Beach, and Ormond Beach.

Sarah Gurtis, COA’s President & CEO says, “We rely on our community to ensure that some of our most vulnerable elderly neighbors receive nutritious meals, especially at this time. Our ability to partner with local businesses, civic organizations, and other groups will help meet the critical growing need in our community.”

All volunteers undergo screening, background checks, and training. Those interested in volunteering are encouraged to call 386-253-4700 x239.

The mission of Council on Aging of Volusia County, a 501(c)-(3) non-profit organization, is to enrich the lives of our most vulnerable elderly citizens by providing needed services that allow them to remain safely in their own homes.

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