

For Immediate Release

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“Ani-Meals” Program Continues to Feed the Pets of Homebound Seniors

Fayetteville, GA. June 14, 2011. Thanks to a \$1000 grant from The Banfield Charitable Trust, Fayette Senior Services can sustain its Ani-Meals program. Ani-Meals began in 2010 and provides pet food for the companion pets of Meals On Wheels clients. The grant funds were made available through the partnership between The Meals On Wheels Association of America and The Banfield Charitable Trust. Thanks to this grant, Fayette Senior Services will be able to continue providing pet food for current clients and also expand to include more clients who have requested the service.

Ani-Meals was started to ensure that homebound seniors receiving Meals On Wheels, did not forgo their own food in order to feed their pets. Often, hunger can become a mutual affliction—especially when leaving the home is not an option. “For many of our homebound seniors, their pets provide companionship and comfort and without Ani-Meals, some of our homebound seniors may be faced with the challenges of how to keep their pet in their home,” says Meals On Wheels Coordinator Ginnie Plunkett. She adds, “We believe that maintaining the important bond between an owner and pet keeps both healthy and happy in the long run. A previous grant from Banfield Charitable Trust helped us to start Ani-Meals, so we are very thankful that they have once again awarded us funds in order to continue and expand our program.” Fayette Senior Services delivers more than 40,000 Meals On Wheels annually and Ani-Meals provides pet food to 30 pets each month.

Citizens who wish to donate food for Ani-Meals may do so at one of two locations: Fayette Senior Services, 4 Center Drive in Fayetteville (across from the Fayette County Justice Center) or Animal Medical Clinic, 405 Hwy 74 North, Peachtree City. A list of food that is currently needed can be found at both locations as well as online at www.FayetteLifeEnrichment.org/animeals.html . However, any cat or dog food will gladly be accepted. For more information about Ani-Meals, please contact Ginnie Plunkett, Meals On Wheels Coordinator at gplunkett@fayss.org or 770-461-0813 ext. 127.

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