



MICHIGAN SENATE

Appropriations Requests for Legislatively Directed Spending Items

Date Submitted: 01/22/2026

1. Sponsoring legislator's full name:

Senator Mark Huizenga

2. Cosponsoring legislators' names (if applicable):

N/A

3. Intended legislatively directed spending item recipient:

Meals on Wheels Western Michigan

4. Physical address of legislatively directed spending item recipient and the intended location of the project or activity:

2900 Wilson Ave. SW Grandville, MI 49418

5. The recipient's employer identification number:

382535537

6. Requested amount of the legislatively directed spending item:

\$1,782,835.93

7. What is the purpose and how does the legislatively directed spending item provide a public benefit that is an appropriate use of taxpayer money?

Meals on Wheels Western Michigan is seeking funding to renovate its commercial kitchen so it can safely and efficiently expand meal production as demand for senior nutrition services continues to rise. The current facility is operating at or near capacity, and outdated equipment and layout limitations make it increasingly difficult to meet the growing needs of our community. Investing taxpayer dollars in this renovation delivers a clear and measurable public benefit. A modernized kitchen will significantly increase production capacity, enhance food safety standards, and reduce long term operating costs through more efficient equipment and workflow design. These improvements directly translate into more seniors receiving reliable, nutritious meals tailored to their specific health needs. Senior meal programs routinely customize menus to support chronic conditions, such as carbohydrate and sugar

controlled meals for diabetics and offer calorie specific options for individuals managing weight related challenges. This is essential for maintaining health, preventing complications, and supporting seniors' ability to remain independent in their homes. By helping older adults avoid unnecessary hospitalizations and delaying the need for skilled nursing care, these services generate substantial cost savings for the state's Medicaid program. The benefits extend beyond nutrition alone. Volunteers who deliver meals also provide vital social contact and wellness checks, reducing isolation and supporting the emotional well being of the seniors they serve. This renovation is a cost effective, preventive investment that strengthens community infrastructure across both Kent and Allegan counties. By expanding the capacity of a proven, high impact program, public funds will help ensure that more seniors can age safely, healthfully, and with dignity in the place they call home.

8. Has the legislatively directed spending item previously received or been awarded any of the following types of funding in the past 5 years? If so, how much? Check all that apply:

State, Local

Amount

\$367,164.07

9. Estimated time frame for completion of the legislatively directed spending item project:

End of fiscal year of 2026

10. Is the recipient a nonprofit corporation?

Yes

Additional Information for Nonprofit Corporations (if applicable)

The answer to questions 1 to 3 must be "Yes" for the nonprofit corporation to qualify for a legislatively directed spending item.

1. Has the nonprofit corporation continuously operated in this state for the preceding 36 months?

Yes

2. Has the nonprofit corporation had a physical office in this state for not less than the preceding 12 consecutive months?

Yes

3. Does the organization have a board of directors?

Yes

4. List all of the officers and active members on the board of directors:

Lisa Wideman (CEO), Kurtis Boeve (CFO), Shannon Heads (Chairperson), Dana Fillmore (Vice-chairperson), Peter Dann (Treasurer), Marcie Lewis (Secretary). Board member: Paul Goebel, Ed Coke, Peggy Coutchie, Chad Schondelmayer, Gage Selvius, Oliver Hale, Christy Going, Mike Munch, Jo Verbeek.

Certification By Sponsoring Legislator

"I certify that my immediate family members, legislative staff members, and I have no direct or indirect pecuniary interest in the requested legislatively directed spending item."

"I certify that the intended recipient of this legislatively directed spending item is not a for-profit entity."

*"I certify that the information in this form is true to the best of my knowledge."
Senator Mark Huizenga*