

# DAILY NEWS

50¢

2.5 MILLION READERS EVERY DAY

NYDailyNews.com

## Wolf banging at Citymeals' door

**BY STEPHANIE GASKELL**  
DAILY NEWS STAFF WRITER

CITYMEALS-ON-Wheels depends on two things that are getting more expensive by the day — food and fuel.

The charity, which delivers meals to the elderly, is struggling just to keep up.

“Citymeals-on-Wheels is 26 years old and this is the worst time in that entire period,” said Executive Director Marcia Stein.

The organization used to deliver a hot meal for \$5. Now it costs \$6. And in this economy,

fund-raising has become more challenging as New Yorkers tighten their belts.

“Every \$6 we don’t raise is a meal we don’t deliver,” Stein said.

The charity is not only getting socked by the rising cost of food and gas, it lost one of its major fund-raisers.

“The sudden downfall of Bear Stearns resulted in a \$500,000 loss to Citymeals-on-Wheels,” Stein said.

The investment banking firm, which was recently bought by JPMorgan, spon-

sored one of Citymeals-on-Wheels’ largest fund-raisers.

Stein said New Yorkers are still making donations to the charity, “but the gifts are smaller.”

Stein said she’s been trying to cut costs where she can.

“You can postpone some things — like research, advocacy — but how do you postpone delivery of a meal to a 95-year-old person in a wheelchair?”

To donate to Citymeals-on-Wheels, go to [www.citymeals.org](http://www.citymeals.org) or call (212) 687-1234.

[sgaskell@nydailynews.com](mailto:sgaskell@nydailynews.com)