Sarasota community unites for disadvantaged residents

While the holiday season is filled with joy, for many home-bound residents, it can be one of isolation.

But thanks to the support of the Sarasota community and Meals on Wheels of Sarasota, hundreds of physically and mentally challenged residents will have holiday cheer this season.

“Many take for granted the family they have around them to visit, have a friend to stop by to wish them happy holidays or even have the ability to get in a car or walk to a local shop for the things we need in our everyday lives,” said Marjorie Broughton, executive director of Meals on Wheels Sarasota. “To make a very happy holiday for our needy members, we asked for the community’s help by donating small gifts we can place in gift bags ... and the community delivered in a big way.

“This week, our volunteers delivered more than 500 gift bags, meals and holiday wishes to our homebound clients.”

Over the past month, the community — notably The Founders Club, First Baptist Church, St. Mark’s Church, and the Downtown Community Church — have provided the necessary resources to make the holiday season special for home-bound residents.