

Vinsen Faris, CFRE

Vinsen serves as the Executive Director of Meals-on-Wheels of Johnson and Ellis Counties in North Central Texas. Under his leadership, the organization has grown from a small program serving a handful of people to a multi-county organization providing over 1,200 meals daily in a 1,700+ square mile service area.

Vinsen is recognized locally, statewide and nationally as an advocate for senior issues, especially senior hunger and isolation. He is known for his work in nonprofit management and board development, his fundraising expertise, and as a mentor for those working in the not-for-profit sector.

He is the Immediate Past Chair of the Board of Directors of Meals on Wheels America. During his two-year term as Chair, Vinsen helped lead the organization in "reimagining its future," revising its governance structure, and ultimately rebranding itself. He has provided testimony to the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Ways and Means regarding the charitable giving tax deduction, appeared as a guest on both the "Diane Rehm Show" and MSNBC's "Hardball with Chris Matthews," and was featured in the ASAE magazine "Associations NOW" issue on volunteer leadership.

Vinsen first learned the importance of being a "people-person" just out of high school, while working at Six Flag over Texas. After a career in the food service / hospitality industry, he found his true calling in the work of community benefit organizations. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and a Master of Public Administration from the University of Texas at Arlington.

He and his wife live on a small ranch in rural Johnson County in a 1912 ranch house that they have lovingly restored.

Recognition

- Ben Franklin Award, Outstanding Professional Fundraiser, Association of Fundraising Professionals, Fort Worth Metro Chapter, 2012
- Certified Professional Fundraiser (CFRE), CFRE International, 2005
- Outstanding Professional Award, Texas Association of Aging Programs, 2004
- Above and Beyond Award, Chisholm Trail 100 Club, 2015
- Paul Harris Fellow, Rotary International Foundation

Organizations

- Meals on Wheels America, Immediate Past Chair
- Meals on Wheels Association of Texas, Past President
- Association of Fundraising Professionals, Fort Worth Metro Chapter, Member, Past Treasurer and Board Member
- Partnership for Philanthropic Planning, Lone Star Council
- Center for Nonprofit Management, Former Consultant
- Tarrant Area Gerontological Society

CURRICULUM VITAE OF
VINSEN FARIS, CFRE

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PROFESSIONAL CREDENTIALS

- Certified Professional Fundraiser (CFRE), CFRE International

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

- Meals on Wheels America, Immediate Past Board Chair
- Meals on Wheels Association of Texas, Past President
- Association of Fundraising Professionals, Fort Worth Metro Chapter
- Partnership for Philanthropic Planning, Lone Star Council
- Tarrant Area Gerontological Society
- Center for Nonprofit Management
- Texas Association of Nutrition and Aging Services Programs, Past President

EDUCATION

- Master of Public Administration, School of Urban and Public Affairs, University of Texas at Arlington
- Bachelor of Arts in Political Science, University of Texas at Arlington

RECOGNITION

- Ben Franklin Award, Outstanding Professional Fundraiser, Association of Fundraising Professionals, Fort Worth Metro Chapter
- Outstanding Professional Award, Texas Association of Aging Programs
- Above and Beyond Award, Chisholm Trail 100 Club

- Paul Harris Fellow, Rotary International Foundation

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Attended and presented at numerous conferences, seminars, and workshops:
 - philanthropy
 - fundraising
 - board development
 - governance
 - nonprofit management
 - grant writing
 - volunteer management
 - technology
 - aging services
 - nutrition
- Presented testimony to committees of U. S. Congress and Texas Legislature

CIVIC ACTIVITIES

- Burleson Rotary Club, Member and Past President
- Public Transportation Advisory Committee of the Texas Transportation Commission, Past Member
- 2012 Johnson County Redistricting Committee, member

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

- Executive Director, Meals-on-Wheels of Johnson and Ellis Counties
- President, Faris Ranch Management

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MISCELLANEOUS

- Alumni Association, The University of Texas at Arlington, Life Member
- Texas & Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association, member
- National Trust for Historic Preservation, member
- Chisholm Trail 100; Life Member