



8.8 million of America's seniors — or nearly 1 in 6 — may not know where their next meal is coming from. Programs like Meals on Wheels are critical to solving this national crisis. The nutritious meals, friendly visits and safety checks delivered each day are often all it takes to enable our seniors to live independently in their own homes. And, when they do, we all save billions of tax dollars in avoided hospital, health care and nursing home costs. Investing in Meals on Wheels is a win-win.

UNITED STATES

THE SENIOR HUNGER CRISIS  
 IS REAL

**8.8 MILLION**  
 seniors in United States are  
 STRUGGLING WITH HUNGER.

**2.5 MILLION**  
 of them / **28%** / are  
 RECEIVING OUR HELP...

LEAVING → **6.3 MILLION IN NEED**

IT WOULDN'T TAKE MUCH TO FIX

WE CAN PROVIDE nutritious meals for a United States senior for a full year FOR LESS THAN **\$1,545**.

The Federal government's contribution covers ONLY **37%** OF THAT COST.

PROGRAMS RELY on contributions from state, local, private and other resources to cover the rest.

THE MORE WE INVEST, THE MORE WE SAVE

For every dollar we invest in Meals on Wheels we CAN SAVE UP TO **\$50** in Medicaid spending.

IF WE COMMIT TO SERVING just one quarter of the hungry seniors in the United States...

**\$2.4 BILLION** WE INVEST can be offset 50 times by the **\$121.3 BILLION** WE SAVE.

→ **The American public gets it: 71% believe** the government should pay for Meals on Wheels. ←

# OLDER AMERICANS ACT NUTRITION PROGRAMS

The Older Americans Act (OAA) has been the primary piece of federal legislation supporting social and nutrition services to Americans age 60 and older since 1965. OAA programs are vital for seniors who are at significant risk of hunger and of losing their ability to live independently.

Title III of the OAA establishes a grant system to fund programs that address the unique needs of vulnerable seniors. These services include:

- > Meals on Wheels home delivery programs and congregate meals (served at group sites, such as senior centers)
- > Transportation services
- > Personal care and homemaker services
- > Caregiver assistance

## NATIONAL OAA PROFILE / 2011

### Nutrition Programs

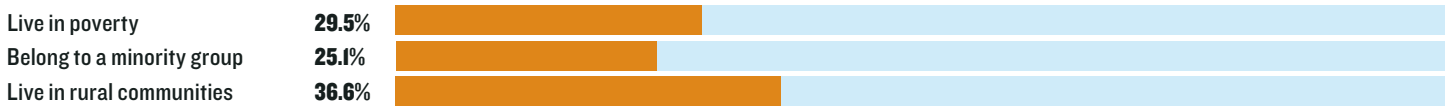
<b>Older Americans Act Nutrition Expenditures</b>	<b>\$516,930,580</b>
<b>Total Nutrition Expenditures</b>	<b>\$1,406,503,791</b>
<b>Seniors Served by Meals on Wheels Programs</b>	<b>2,513,056</b>
Home-Delivered	856,471
Congregate	1,656,585
<b>Meals Served by Meals on Wheels Programs</b>	<b>227,733,144</b>
Home-Delivered	139,145,530
Congregate	88,587,614

### Client Profile - OAA National Survey

	HOME-DELIVERED	CONGREGATE
Women	65.6%	63.1%
Live in poverty	39%	26%
Belong to a minority group	25.3%	23.3%
Live in rural communities	36.9%	40.7%
Participate in SNAP	15%	7%
Take 5+ medications	61%	31%
Need assistance going outside	84%	72%
Single meal helps provide 1/2 or more of total food for the day	61%	51%
Meals help them feel better	90%	85%
Enable to live at home	92%	60%

→  **More than 500,000 of the seniors served are Veterans** ←

### Title III Clients Receiving OAA Nutrition or Other Supportive Services



### Federal Appropriations

Funding for OAA programs is provided through the Department of Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies (Labor- HHS-Education) annual appropriations bill, and dollars are allocated to states based on a formula. Since FY 2009, federal OAA Appropriations to United States's nutrition programs have fallen by **6.4%**.

