HOW CUTS TO FEDERAL FUNDING WOULD AFFECT MEALS ON WHEELS

FEDERAL FUNDING PROVIDES THE FOUNDATION FOR THE MEALS ON WHEELS NETWORK

8 OUT OF 10 LOCAL MEALS ON WHEELS PROGRAMS RECEIVE FEDERAL FUNDING¹

2 OUT OF 3 OF THESE PROGRAMS RELY ON FEDERAL FUNDING TO COVER 33% OR MORE OF THEIR OPERATING BUDGET¹

FEDERAL FUNDING SOURCES AT RISK¹

CUTS WOULD FORCE MEALS ON WHEELS PROGRAMS TO MAKE VERY TOUGH CHOICES

If funding is cut, local Meals on Wheels programs report having to do one or more of the following⁴:

- Reduce number of meals served
- Reduce number of days meals are served
- Reduce staff hours or draw on reserves
- Limit participation in and/or close congregate meal sites
- Establish or add to a waiting list
- Eliminate weekend/holiday meals
- Eliminate special diets and preferences
- Shut program down altogether

REDUCTIONS IN FEDERAL FUNDING WOULD ONLY MAKE MATTERS WORSE AS THE DEMAND FOR MEALS ON WHEELS IS ALREADY SIGNIFICANT AND RAPIDLY GROWING

NOW IS THE TIME TO INVEST FURTHER IN THIS VITAL PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP TO ENSURE OUR VULNERABLE SENIORS ARE NOT FORGOTTEN

¹March 2017 Meals on Wheels America Federal Funding Impact Survey representing 398 total responses from Meals on Wheels America member programs across the country
²US Census Bureau
³Meals on Wheels America Membership Renewal Survey
⁴AGing Integrated Database (AGID) system at www.agid.acl.gov

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