

DELIVERING SO MUCH MORE THAN JUST A MEAL IN ARKANSAS

ARKANSAS'S SENIOR POPULATION STRUGGLES WITH HUNGER AND ISOLATION

Senior population	683,277 (23%)
Seniors threatened by hunger (marginally food insecure)	107,274 (16%)
Seniors at risk of hunger (food insecure)	61,495 (9%)
Seniors facing hunger (very low food secure)	19,815 (3%)
Seniors living alone	169,597 (25%)

ADDITIONAL FACTORS CAN MAKE SENIORS EVEN MORE VULNERABLE

Seniors living in poverty	73,680 (11%)
Seniors that are non-white racial and/or an ethnic minority	15%
Seniors experiencing falls with injury	10%
Seniors with self-rated health as "fair to poor"	34%
Seniors with a disability	40%

INADEQUATE NUTRITION AND/OR LIMITED SOCIAL CONTACT HAS DIRECT HEALTH CONSEQUENCES THAT AFFECT THE HEALTHCARE SYSTEM AND ECONOMY

Preventable hospitalizations*	62%	Hospital readmissions within 30 days*	15%
Total Medicare spending (in billions)	\$5.54		

OLDER AMERICANS ACT (OAA) NUTRITION PROGRAMS IN ARKANSAS ARE DELIVERING NUTRITIOUS MEALS, FRIENDLY VISITS AND SAFETY CHECKS TO THE MOST AT-RISK SENIORS

	Congregate Meals	Home-Delivered Meals	Total
Seniors served each year	21,791	13,932	35,723
Meals served each year	1,319,282	2,076,564	3,395,846

PROFILE OF OAA TITLE III RECIPIENTS (INCLUDES SUPPORTIVE SERVICES)

Live alone	48%	Live in poverty	30%
Live in a rural area	57%	Minority	18%
Women	63%		

FUNDING FOR THESE PROGRAMS VARY BASED ON THE NEEDS AND RESOURCES OF THE COMMUNITY, AND ARE MADE UP OF FEDERAL, STATE, LOCAL AND PRIVATE DOLLARS

	Congregate Meals	Home-Delivered Meals	Total
OAA Expenditures	\$5,016,126	\$4,438,145	\$9,454,271 (45%)
Total Expenditures	\$8,842,831	\$12,192,619	\$21,035,450

TOGETHER, WE MUST INVEST MORE FULLY IN MEALS ON WHEELS TO ENSURE VULNERABLE SENIORS IN ARKANSAS CAN REMAIN HEALTHIER AT HOME, AVOIDING MORE COSTLY HEALTHCARE FACILITIES

Cost of 1 day (1 meal) serving a senior Meals on Wheels**	Cost of 1 day in a hospital	Cost of 1 day in a nursing home
\$8.87	\$1,765	\$176

MEALS ON WHEELS PROVIDES A SOLUTION THAT SERVES US ALL

*Among Medicare enrollees age 65+

**Aggregated inflation-adjusted estimate

