

DELIVERING SO MUCH MORE THAN JUST A MEAL IN DELAWARE

DELAWARE'S SENIOR POPULATION STRUGGLES WITH HUNGER AND ISOLATION

Senior population	238,798 (25%)
Seniors threatened by hunger (marginally food insecure)	25,313 (11%)
Seniors at risk of hunger (food insecure)	26,507 (11%)
Seniors facing hunger (very low food secure)	11,224 (5%)
Seniors living alone	50,334 (21%)

ADDITIONAL FACTORS CAN MAKE SENIORS EVEN MORE VULNERABLE

Seniors living in poverty	22,110 (9%)
Seniors that are non-white racial and/or an ethnic minority	22%
Seniors experiencing falls with injury	9%
Seniors with self-rated health as "fair to poor"	25%
Seniors with a disability	25%

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

Preventable hospitalizations*	47%	Hospital readmissions within 30 days*	15%
Total Medicare spending (in billions)	\$2.00		

OLDER AMERICANS ACT (OAA) NUTRITION PROGRAMS IN DELAWARE 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	9,412	4,067	13,479
Meals served each year	312,591	685,504	998,095

PROFILE OF OAA TITLE III RECIPIENTS (INCLUDES SUPPORTIVE SERVICES)

Live alone	33%	Live in poverty	6%
Live in a rural area	44%	Minority	27%
Women	66%		

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	\$1,468,452	\$1,718,067	\$3,186,519 (53%)
Total Expenditures	\$1,769,552	\$4,283,488	\$6,053,040

TOGETHER, WE MUST INVEST MORE FULLY IN MEALS ON WHEELS TO ENSURE VULNERABLE SENIORS IN DELAWARE 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
\$8.80	\$3,026	\$345

MEALS ON WHEELS PROVIDES A SOLUTION THAT SERVES US ALL

*Among Medicare enrollees age 65+

**Aggregated inflation-adjusted estimate

