

DELIVERING SO MUCH MORE THAN JUST A MEAL IN RHODE ISLAND

RHODE ISLAND'S SENIOR POPULATION STRUGGLES WITH HUNGER AND ISOLATION

Senior population	248,772 (24%)
Seniors threatened by hunger (marginally food insecure)	34,579 (14%)
Seniors at risk of hunger (food insecure)	23,882 (10%)
Seniors facing hunger (very low food secure)	13,434 (5%)
Seniors living alone	70,176 (28%)

ADDITIONAL FACTORS CAN MAKE SENIORS EVEN MORE VULNERABLE

Seniors living in poverty	22,380 (9%)
Seniors that are non-white racial and/or an ethnic minority	12%
Seniors experiencing falls with injury	11%
Seniors with self-rated health as "fair to poor"	22%
Seniors with a disability	29%

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

Preventable hospitalizations*	54%	Hospital readmissions within 30 days*	15%
Total Medicare spending (in billions)	\$2.18		

OLDER AMERICANS ACT (OAA) NUTRITION PROGRAMS IN RHODE ISLAND 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	5,564	2,156	7,720
Meals served each year	319,576	287,320	606,896

PROFILE OF OAA TITLE III RECIPIENTS (INCLUDES SUPPORTIVE SERVICES)

Live alone	51%	Live in poverty	12%
Live in a rural area	3%	Minority	9%
Women	68%		

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	\$1,455,532	\$833,214	\$2,288,746 (61%)
Total Expenditures	\$2,574,854	\$1,176,655	\$3,751,509

TOGETHER, WE MUST INVEST MORE FULLY IN MEALS ON WHEELS TO ENSURE VULNERABLE SENIORS IN RHODE ISLAND 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
\$10.65	\$2,740	\$290

MEALS ON WHEELS PROVIDES A SOLUTION THAT SERVES US ALL

*Among Medicare enrollees age 65+

**Aggregated inflation-adjusted estimate

