

DELIVERING SO MUCH MORE THAN JUST A MEAL IN RHODE ISLAND

RHODE ISLAND'S SENIOR POPULATION STRUGGLES WITH HUNGER AND ISOLATION

Senior population ¹	254,438 (24%)	Rank: 12 th in U.S.
Seniors threatened by hunger (marginally food insecure)	47,834 (19%)	Rank: 18 th in U.S.
Seniors at risk of hunger (food insecure)	15,521 (6%)	Rank: 33 rd in U.S.
Seniors facing hunger (very low food secure)	6,107 (2%)	Rank: 30 th in U.S.
State ranking for risk of social isolation ²	9 th in U.S.	

MANY FACTORS CAN CREATE DISPARITIES AND MAKE SENIORS EVEN MORE VULNERABLE

Black or African American	3%	Hispanic or Latino	6%	Native American/Alaskan or Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	<1%
Seniors self-reporting "fair to poor" health	24%	Seniors with a disability	28%		
Seniors living alone	28%	Seniors living below the poverty line	10%		
Seniors who lack income to pay for basic living needs	Singles: 54%		Couples: 22%		

INADEQUATE NUTRITION AND LIMITED SOCIAL CONTACT HAVE HEALTH CONSEQUENCES THAT AFFECT INDIVIDUALS, OUR HEALTHCARE SYSTEM AND THE ECONOMY

Seniors experiencing falls with injury	10%	Preventable hospitalizations ³	40 per 1,000
Hospital readmissions within 30 days ³	18%	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 SENIORS AT RISK OF HUNGER AND ISOLATION

	Title III-C Nutrition Program		Title VI Grants for Native Americans	
	Seniors served	Meals served	Seniors served	Meals served
Congregate meals	5,449	310,216	55	3,867
Home-delivered meals	2,136	236,768	0	0
Total	7,585	546,984	55	3,867

PROFILE OF SENIORS RECEIVING OAA TITLE III SERVICES ⁴

Live alone	47%	Live below the poverty line	13%
Live in a rural area	3%	Women	66%
Black or African American	3%	Hispanic or Latino	3%
		Native American or Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	1%

FUNDING FOR THESE PROGRAMS VARIES 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 Title III expenditures	\$1,486,932	\$853,394	\$2,340,326 (68%)
Total expenditures	\$2,073,729	\$1,383,394	\$3,457,123

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 home-delivered / congregate meal ⁵	Cost of 1 day in a hospital	Cost of 1 day in a nursing home
\$11.88 / \$10.21	\$2,809	\$328

MEALS ON WHEELS PROVIDES A SOLUTION THAT SERVES US ALL

Notes: ¹ Senior population and hunger: lower number ranking = higher percent; ² Social isolation: lower number ranking = higher isolation risk; ³ Among Medicare beneficiaries of all ages; ⁴ Includes Title III registered services not limited to meals; ⁵ Inflation-adjusted regional average

