

# DELIVERING SO MUCH MORE THAN JUST A MEAL IN SOUTH CAROLINA

## SOUTH CAROLINA'S SENIOR POPULATION STRUGGLES WITH HUNGER AND ISOLATION

Senior population <sup>1</sup>	1,233,459 (24%)	Rank: 10 <sup>th</sup> in U.S.
Seniors threatened by hunger (marginally food insecure)	236,824 (19%)	Rank: 16 <sup>th</sup> in U.S.
Seniors at risk of hunger (food insecure)	106,077 (9%)	Rank: 14 <sup>th</sup> in U.S.
Seniors facing hunger (very low food secure)	24,669 (2%)	Rank: 43 <sup>rd</sup> in U.S.
State ranking for risk of social isolation <sup>2</sup>	22 <sup>nd</sup> in U.S.	

## MANY FACTORS CAN CREATE DISPARITIES AND MAKE SENIORS EVEN MORE VULNERABLE

Black or African American	22%	Hispanic or Latino	2%	Native American/Alaskan or Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	<1%
Seniors self-reporting "fair to poor" health	25%	Seniors with a disability	32%		
Seniors living alone	24%	Seniors living below the poverty line	11%		
Seniors who lack income to pay for basic living needs	Singles: 51%		Couples: 21%		

## 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 <sup>3</sup>	41 per 1,000
Hospital readmissions within 30 days <sup>3</sup>	16%	Total Medicare spending (in billions)	\$9.37

## OLDER AMERICANS ACT (OAA) NUTRITION PROGRAMS IN SOUTH CAROLINA 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	7,919	726,248	55	5,140
Home-delivered meals	13,091	1,906,502	53	14,740
<b>Total</b>	<b>21,010</b>	<b>2,632,750</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>19,880</b>

## PROFILE OF SENIORS RECEIVING OAA TITLE III SERVICES <sup>4</sup>

Live alone	<1%	Live below the poverty line	49%
Live in a rural area	55%	Women	70%
Black or African American	55%	Hispanic or Latino	1%
		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	\$3,276,390	\$5,756,217	\$9,032,607 (58%)
Total expenditures	\$5,105,944	\$10,592,476	\$15,698,420

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

Cost of 1 home-delivered / congregate meal <sup>5</sup>	Cost of 1 day in a hospital	Cost of 1 day in a nursing home
\$9.84 / \$8.85	\$2,058	\$234

## MEALS ON WHEELS PROVIDES A SOLUTION THAT SERVES US ALL

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

