DELIVERING SO MUCH MORE THAN JUST A MEAL



UNITED STATES 2020

THE OLDER AMERICANS ACT NUTRITION PROGRAM IS THE ONLY FEDERALLY SUPPORTED PROGRAM DESIGNED SPECIFICALLY TO MEET THE NUTRITIONAL AND SOCIAL NEEDS OF SENIORS

Community-based senior nutrition programs are welcomed into the homes of our nation's seniors with every meal delivery. Many Meals on Wheels programs also manage congregate nutrition sites — such as senior centers — which provide more mobile seniors the opportunity to socialize.









Millions of volunteers enable 221 MILLION MEALS to be delivered to 2.4 MILLION SENIORS each year

Nutrition program participants:	Home- delivered	Congregate
Are 75 or older	62%	53%
Are women	64%	65%
Live alone	58%	51%
Are veterans	15%	12%
Live in rural areas	32%	34%
Self-report fair or poor health	50%	28%
Take 3+ medications daily	87%	68%
Do not have enough money to buy food	33%	17%
Report 3+ medical conditions	90%	85%
Are Black or African American	19%	12%
Are Hispanic or Latino	7%	11%
Are Native American or Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	5%	3%

FREQUENT IN-HOME VISITS PROVIDE UNIQUE OPPORTUNITIES TO MEET NUTRITIONAL NEEDS, COMBAT SOCIAL ISOLATION, ADDRESS SAFETY HAZARDS AND PROVIDE HOLISTIC CARE



9 OUT OF 10 say Meals on Wheels helps them live independently



Daily home-delivered meals help keep 8 OUT OF 10 RECIPIENTS who have previously fallen from falling again

A typical meal meets the dietary guidelines set by the Older Americans Act Nutrition Program. Meals are often tailored to meet medical needs and cultural preferences.

2 OUT OF 3 RECIPIENTS

report the meals make up half or more of all food eaten that day

8 OUT OF 10 RECIPIENTS

say they see their friends more often because of the congregate meals



58% of home-delivered meal recipients live alone, and for many of them, the person delivering the meal is often the only person they will see that day

MEALS ON WHEELS PROVIDES A COST-EFFECTIVE SOLUTION THAT SERVES US ALL

9 OUT OF 10 RECIPIENTS say Meals on Wheels received at home improves their health







~III

MEALS ON WHEELS CAN SERVE A SENIOR FOR AN ENTIRE YEAR FOR ABOUT THE SAME COST AS JUST ONE DAY IN A HOSPITAL OR 10 DAYS IN A NURSING HOME