

DELIVERING SO MUCH MORE THAN JUST A MEAL IN LOUISIANA

LOUISIANA'S SENIOR POPULATION STRUGGLES WITH HUNGER AND ISOLATION

Senior population ¹	1,012,366 (22%)	Rank: 39 th in U.S.
Seniors threatened by hunger (marginally food insecure)	244,993 (24%)	Rank: 4 th in U.S.
Seniors at risk of hunger (food insecure)	112,373 (11%)	Rank: 4 th in U.S.
Seniors facing hunger (very low food secure)	48,594 (5%)	Rank: 5 th in U.S.
State ranking for risk of social isolation ²	3 rd in U.S.	

MANY FACTORS CAN CREATE DISPARITIES AND MAKE SENIORS EVEN MORE VULNERABLE

Black or African American	26%	Hispanic or Latino	3%	Native American/Alaskan or Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	<1%
Seniors self-reporting "fair to poor" health	31%	Seniors with a disability	34%		
Seniors living alone	25%	Seniors living below the poverty line	13%		
Seniors who lack income to pay for basic living needs	Singles: 55%		Couples: 26%		

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

Seniors experiencing falls with injury	13%	Preventable hospitalizations ³	56 per 1,000
Hospital readmissions within 30 days ³	16%	Total Medicare spending (in billions)	\$9.12

OLDER AMERICANS ACT (OAA) NUTRITION PROGRAMS IN LOUISIANA 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	16,754	1,307,238	524	12,981
Home-delivered meals	20,093	3,374,335	36	10,167
Total	36,847	4,681,573	560	23,148

PROFILE OF SENIORS RECEIVING OAA TITLE III SERVICES ⁴

Live alone	50%	Live below the poverty line	42%
Live in a rural area	42%	Women	65%
Black or African American	40%	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	\$3,990,515	\$2,963,338	\$6,953,853 (21%)
Total expenditures	\$9,960,663	\$22,489,995	\$32,450,658

TOGETHER, WE MUST INVEST MORE FULLY IN MEALS ON WHEELS TO ENSURE VULNERABLE SENIORS IN LOUISIANA 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
\$9.84 / \$8.85	\$2,030	\$179

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

