Support SF4508/HF4210

Advocacy Priorities

Keep Minnesota seniors healthy and lower future costs

Minnesota seniors are in urgent need of your help. One in two older adults is at risk for malnutrition. Food access can make the difference between older adults living independently in their homes and needing more expensive institutional care.

The Senior Meals and Services Coalition is asking legislators to support older adults with:

- Clear policy language that increases efficiency in nutrition service delivery and provides flexibility for innovation **(SF4508/HF4210)**.
- An increase of $11 million in base funding for senior meals to meet the growing need of our aging population. A one-time increase of $4.07 million would prevent the reduction of 452,000 meals to more than 6,000 existing meal program participants.

Lowering future costs for taxpayers

The services and support provided through the aging network are some of the most cost-effective ways to support older adults.

The services are targeted to frail older adults with low incomes or living in rural areas, often both.

SENIOR MEALS & SERVICES COALITION

Contact your senators and representatives and urge their support.

For the latest updates, visit

seniorservicesmn.org

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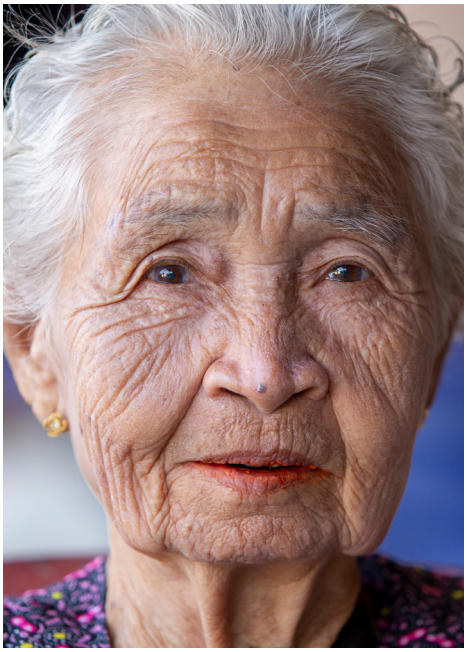

What you need to know

- There are currently **1.1 million** adults age 65+ in Minnesota. **9%** of those older adults are living below the poverty line.
- In federal fiscal year 2025, more than 11,000 older adults receiving home-delivered meals **(58%) were at high nutrition risk.**
- In federal fiscal year 2025, **a full 40%** of those receiving home-delivered meals needed help with three or more Instrumental Activities of Daily Living (IADLs) such as medication management, driving and grocery shopping. **These meals are getting into the hands of the people that need them most.**
- The Minnesota Association of Area Agencies on Aging estimates that a one-time increase of $4.07 million would **cover the cost of 452,000 meals,** a number that meets the projected shortfall of meals that will be served in 2026 compared to 2025.
- Food costs continue to outpace inflation, **increasing 31%** between 2019 and 2025.
- In 2023, the legislature passed and Governor Walz signed a one-time appropriation of $11 million for senior meals. This funding filled a critical gap for senior meals. **The coalition is now asking the legislature to continue that support with bridge funding to meet the growing demand.**

Join us in raising awareness of the need to fund **senior meals and services.**

Learn more and get latest updates at:

seniorservicesmn.org

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MINNESOTA ASSOCIATION OF AREA AGENCIES ON AGING

This advocacy effort is convened by the Minnesota Association of Area Agencies on Aging. A voice for older adults in Minnesota.

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