Welcome to the
“SUA Discussion Webinar – SNAP and Title III Nutrition Programs”

Presenters: Holly Greuling, Lynn Hart, Jenifer O’Keefe and Sara Koenig
Facilitator: Magda Hageman-Apol

The webinar will begin at 3:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time
Major Federal Programs that Address Senior Hunger

- TEFAP — The Emergency Food Assistance Program
- SFMNP — Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program
- CSFP — Commodity Supplemental Food Program
- SNAP — Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
- CACFP — Child and Adult Care Food Program

Each State’s Percentage of Older Adults that are Threatened by Hunger

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State of Senior Hunger in America 2013: An Annual Report
(Released April 23, 2015)
Quick Facts about USDA’s Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

• SNAP was originally known as the Food Stamp Program.
• SNAP benefits are federally funded.
• Eligibility rules and benefit levels are determined largely at the federal level.
• Eligibility is primarily based on income and assets.
• The program is administered by state and local entities.
• The program is an entitlement program.

SNAP Participation

• SNAP reached 85 percent of all eligible individuals in the United States.

• Nearly all eligible children participated.

• Participation among eligible elderly adults is 42 percent.

IDM Report WHY THE SNAP BENEFIT FORMULA MAY UNDERESTIMATE NEED
OAA Meal Cost Evaluation

• Voluntary contributions comprised 4 percent of local agency budgets in fiscal year 2009;
• However, some agencies voluntary contributions are significantly higher.
  – For example, Wisconsin state officials estimated that voluntary contributions are between one-quarter to one-third of congregate meal funding.

Older Americans Act Nutrition Programs Evaluation: Meal Cost Analysis Sept 2015

Did You Know Document

• **DID YOU KNOW...that SNAP benefits can be used as a voluntary contribution?**

  Older adults participating in SNAP (formerly known as food stamps) can use those benefits as a voluntary contribution toward the OAA meal if that is what the older adult wishes to do. As you know, several things come into play with this. Some adults will not accept a meal unless they can contribute toward it; SNAP may be their only source of funds to make a voluntary contribution. It may be a matter of pride and we respect that. On the other hand, using limited SNAP benefits on a program that doesn’t require a payment may not be in the best interests of the adult. But it should be their choice; not yours and not ours.

ACL/AoA Nutrition Website
Department of Agriculture

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS TITLE 7
SUBTITLE B CHAPTER II SUBCHAPTER C PART 271

7 CFR Part 274.1
Benefit redemption by eligible households

(g) Households eligible for prepared meals;

(1) Meals-on-wheels. Eligible household members 60 years of age or over or members who are housebound, physically handicapped, or otherwise disabled to the extent that they are unable to adequately prepare all their meals, and their spouses, may use Program benefits to purchase meals prepared for and delivered to them by a nonprofit meal delivery service authorized by FNS.

(2) Communal dining facilities. Eligible household members 60 years of age or over and their spouses, or those receiving SSI and their spouses, may use Program benefits issued to them to purchase meals prepared especially for them at communal dining facilities authorized by FNS for that purpose.
7 CFR 271.2
Communal dining facility Definition

Means a public or nonprofit private establishment, approved by FNS, which prepares and serves meals for elderly persons, or for supplemental security income (SSI) recipients, and their spouses, a public or private nonprofit establishment (eating or otherwise) that feeds elderly persons or SSI recipients, and their spouses, and federally subsidized housing for the elderly at which meals are prepared for and served to the residents. It also includes private establishments that contract with an appropriate State or local agency to offer meals at concessional prices to elderly persons or SSI recipients, and their spouses.

7 CFR 271.2
Elderly Definition

means a member of a household who: (1) Is 60 years of age or older;
References

Long-term Benefits Of The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program December 2015

The State of Senior Hunger in America 2013: An Annual Report

GAO 11-237 Older Americans Act More Should Be Done to Measure the Extent of Unmet Need for Services

Older Americans Act Nutrition Programs Evaluation: Meal Cost Analysis Sept 2015

Title 7 Subtitle B Chapter II Subchapter C Part 271

State and Local SNAP Information

Promoting the Use of the SNAP Benefit in the Congregate and Home Delivered Meal Programs- A New York State Perspective

January 13, 2016
New York State Office for the Aging
Service Area

59 Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs)
• Approximately 9.7 million Congregate Meals annually
• Approximately 12.8 million Home Delivered Meals annually

NYSOFA Perspective
SNAP Promotion:
State: Governor Priority
Nutrition Reviews
Webinars
Teleconferences with Office of Temporary Disability Assistance (OTDA)

County: Locally through Department of Social Services
Hunger Solutions
Not-for-profit agencies
### Local /State Efforts

**Hunger Solutions**
- Promote hunger awareness
- Increase participation in hunger programs
- Advocate for anti-hunger public policies
- Provides support in the fight to end hunger
- Nutrition Outreach Education Program – NOEP Coordinators

### Annual contributions to AAAs that accept SNAP benefits as a means of contribution:

**Lewis County**
- 47,000 congregate and home delivered meals served
- $5,000 in annual SNAP contributions

**Steuben and Yates Counties**
- 191,000 congregate and home delivered meals served
- $6,000 – $8,000 in annual SNAP contributions
Annual SNAP Contributions

**Broome County**
- 222,000 congregate and home delivered meals served
- $15,000 in annual SNAP contributions

**Erie County**
- 950,000 congregate and home delivered meals served
- $51,000 in annual SNAP contributions

Overcoming Barriers to Promote SNAP Use

- Stigma versus Entitlement
- Low Benefit versus average benefit
- Too much paperwork versus assistance to complete paperwork
- Taking food away from the older adult versus enabling older adults to help themselves and others
- Benefit accepted only at the supermarket versus many locations
- Confidentiality is compromised versus confidentiality being maintained.
Contact information

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SNAP/FoodShare & Title III  
Nutrition Programs in WI

**Senior Dining**

Fellowship, Food ▶ Fun

**Sara Koenig, MS RDN CD**  
Elder Nutrition Program Manager  
Wisconsin Bureau of Aging and Disability Resources
USDA Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)/FoodShare Wisconsin

The nutrition program will assist participants in taking advantage of benefits available to them under the SNAP/FoodShare Wisconsin program. Wisconsin's SNAP program, known as FoodShare Wisconsin, uses an electronic benefit-transfer system (EBT) (or benefit card), similar to a credit card. With help from the benefit specialist, nutrition programs can assist participants in the application and use of FoodShare Wisconsin benefits.

Programs may apply to be authorized vendors to accept FoodShare benefits as a voluntary contribution from participants. Information on this process is available on the DHS FoodShare website.

Wisconsin

- Between 1/3 and 1/2 of CAUs/TAUs accept FoodShare for contributions
  - Most accept for both congregate and home delivered meals
- Majority accept paper vouchers vs. using EBT machine
- Contributions range from $0-$402.75 per month
How Nutrition Programs Apply to be Authorized Vendors

• Complete federal application “SNAP Application for Meal Services”
• Complete two copies
  – One for senior dining, one for HDMs
• Submit application to local FNS field office
• When approved, FNS sends further information to nutrition program for getting set up

Paper Vouchers

• Programs complete the paper voucher
• Program staff call WI Merchant Management System
  – Provide card number, amount, voucher number
  – System provides approval number
  – Staff record approval number, approval date and time
• Funding is direct deposited into the aging office’s bank account
“Enrollment” and Participation Process
County X

County Aging Office
1. Participant (or family member) calls or visits county aging office
2. Provide Quest cardholder name & card #/pin
3. Indicate the amount that they wish to contribute
4. Aging office completes paper voucher with this information
5. Participant or family member signs voucher (if there in person) and they receive a duplicate copy of the voucher as a receipt
6. Aging office completes transaction via phone

At Individual Dining Centers or on Home Delivered Meal Routes
1. Participant provides Quest cardholder name & card #/pin to site manager or meal driver
2. Indicate the amount that they wish to contribute
3. Site manager or meal driver completes paper voucher with this information
4. Participant signs voucher
5. Site manager or meal driver return vouchers to aging office with other paperwork
6. Aging office completes transaction via phone
7. Participant receives a duplicate copy of the voucher as a receipt from the site manager or the meal driver

“Enrollment” and Participation Process
County Y

• Participant completes form provided by the ADRC:
  – Indicate method to contribute (amount per meal received, a specific recurring monthly amount, or one-time only contribution)
  – Provide Quest card number and PIN
• Program staff swipe their card or enter information via keypad
• ADRC keeps receipt on file with amount deducted and benefit balance
• Deductions made the month after meals are received
“Enrollment” and Participation Process
County Z

- Dining center participants enroll on site with dining center manager (similar to County X)
- Home delivered meal participants receive one-time authorization form and sign it
- ADRC calls the participant monthly to verify their monthly contribution before calling it in or using the EBT system to make the transaction

Food Share Authorization Form

The following authorizes the monthly withdrawal of funds for a contribution for Meals on Wheels or Congregate Meals from the Food Share Account of:

__________________________________
Name

__________________________________
Address

_________________________________
City, State, Zip

Card Number ________________________
(This information will be kept confidential)

4-Digit PIN Number : __________________

Amount $__________________________
(indicate the amount of money to be contributed either “per meal” or the amount of money to be contributed “per month”)

Beginning with the meal served on ________________ , Date
& continuing every month, until the below signed gives notice to stop.

Participant Signature: ________________________________

Date: __________________________

Fiscal Staff submits to Food Share monthly after the HDM statements are created. Also sends participant a Food Share invoice & copy of HDM statement.

The information you are being asked to provide is needed to determine if you are eligible to receive Older Americans Act Services and to comply with federal reporting requirements. This information will be stored in a secure electronic database and will not be used for any other purpose. Your information will not be shared with another agency without your permission. This information will not be sold to anyone. You have the right to review your electronic record and request changes to ensure accuracy. You will not be denied most services if you refuse to provide this information. If you have questions regarding this, please ask the aging unit staff.
How the Nutrition Program Provides Access to FoodShare/SNAP

• Dining center staff highlight this process in a welcome letter for all new Senior Dining participants
• Dining center staff occasionally remind participants verbally
• Ads in ADRC newsletter
• Posters at dining centers

Challenges

• Decrease in participants who use this option
  – FoodShare benefits were decreased in WI
  – Expansion of Family Care (home & community based waiver program)
• Need to ensure the process is as confidential as possible to protect personal information
• Fee with the EBT machine
• Initial set up can be tedious
Feedback from Programs

• Participants really appreciate having this option for contributing toward their meal (esp. HDM recipients)
• Programs found that they received many more requests for assistance with enrolling in FoodShare/SNAP from participants once they knew they could use the benefit toward their meals
• The process is really easy once it is set up
• Easiest to start with one congregate dining center at a time and then expand to HDMs
• FoodShare staff who provide reimbursements are easy to work with

Why Provide this Option?

• Provides participants with choices in the method they wish to use to contribute
• Gives participants who may not have many resources the ability to contribute toward the program in a different way
• Another source of “income” for the program
Wisconsin’s Next Steps

• At least 12 county/tribal aging units have expressed interest in accepting FoodShare contributions
• Provide support to counties/tribes with highest rates of poverty in those 60+ to get them set up
• Continue to encourage use of this option in nutrition programs across the state

Questions?

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