



National CSFP Association

Commodity Supplemental Food Program

FY 2018 Budget Request: \$250 million

Recommendation:

Fund CSFP at approximately \$250 Million

Fact: CSFP is the only USDA program that provides needy seniors with a nutritionally balanced food package. For FY 2018 we request sufficient funds to maintain at least the current monthly caseload of 697,865 and to provide an opportunity for the two remaining states to start programs subject to USDA approved plans. This is approximately \$250 million subject to cost revisions to be submitted by FNS.

Description:

Fund the existing CSFP program to ensure that up to **697,865 Americans**—needy seniors—in 48 States, the District of Columbia and 2 Indian Tribal Organizations are receiving the essential nutrition they need to survive.

CSFP leverages the efforts of thousands of volunteers at churches and charities across America to deliver essential nutritional support to homebound and isolated seniors at a cost to USDA of less than \$23 per month, but with a retail value in excess of **\$50 per month!** CSFP serves the most-vulnerable members of the “Greatest Generation”.

CSFP makes a difference in the lives of up to **697,865 Americans** every month, and it is critical that the program is funded at approximately **\$250 million** for FY 2018.

Hunger and the Elderly:

According to The National Council on Aging, hunger has a serious impact on our seniors, including: increased risk of stroke; increased problems from pre-existing health conditions; limits the efficacy of many prescription drugs; and may affect brain chemistry resulting in increased incidence of depression and isolation. CSFP helps the most vulnerable seniors receive the nutrition they need, promoting health, treating disease, decreasing the length of hospital stays, and saving millions of dollars in health care costs.

For more information, please contact Frank Kubik at 313-494-4442 or kubikf@focushope.edu.