

NATIONAL CSFP ASSOCIATION

COMMODITY SUPPLEMENTAL FOOD PROGRAM



FY 2019 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 2019 we request sufficient funds to maintain at least the current monthly caseload of 728,552 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 728,552 seniors in 49 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and 3 Indian Tribal Organizations are receiving the essential nutrition they need to survive.



CSFP leverages the efforts of thousands of volunteer at churches and charities across America to deliver essential nutritional support to homebound and isolated seniors at a costs to USDA of less that \$21 per month, but with the retail value in excess of **\$40-\$50 per month!** CSFP serves the most vulnerable members of the "Greatest Generation".

CSFP makes a difference in the lives of up to **728,552** seniors every month, and it is critical that the program is funded at approximately **\$250 million** for FY2019.

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.



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