

## **Restaurants Deliver: Home Meals For Seniors Program Brief Overview and Guidelines**

The Governor announced the beginning of the Restaurants Deliver: Home Meals for Seniors Program, to deliver meals to older adults at high risk from COVID-19. Below is a brief overview and guidelines:

### **Restaurants Deliver Purposes:**

1. Help older and other adults at high risk from COVID-19 to stay home and stay healthy by delivering three nutritious meals a day, and
2. Provide essential economic stimulus to local businesses and workers struggling to stay afloat during the COVID crisis.

### **Target populations:**

- For individuals over the age of 65 or otherwise high-risk, as defined by the CDC (including those who are COVID-19 positive or exposed), and;
  - not eligible for public nutrition programs, such as SNAP/CalFresh or Home Delivered Meals and;
  - must be at or below 600% of the federal poverty limit and;
  - unable to prepare or obtain meals otherwise or do not have access to food resources, as a result of self- isolation/abiding by Stay-at-Home orders and;
  - must live alone or with one other program-eligible adult.

### **Guidelines:**

- Local governments will administer this program, with state support if necessary. A local administrator may be the local AAA, Aging and Adult Services, a county office of emergency services, or a municipality.
- Local administrators will enroll eligible older Californians, select participating local restaurants, and establish delivery services, and must collaborate with other local jurisdictions.
- Contracted vendors must be existing local restaurant and industrial kitchen operations that demonstrate commitment to employment retention, re-employment as well as

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commitment to standards of workplace safety and health, liveable wages, fair employment practices, and wage equity across race and gender.

- There are data requirements that a local administrator must meet.
- Costs are limited to \$66 per day for three meals, inclusive of delivery and administrative costs. There is a 75% FEMA share of costs, 19% state share, and 6% local share. (\$16 for breakfast, \$17 for lunch, \$28 for dinner, and incidental expenses of \$5)

#### **Program Limiting Factors/Issues:**

- FEMA approval is limited to costs through **May 10, 2020**, or longer if an extension is granted by FEMA.
- Individuals providing delivery of meals must complete a background check to ensure safety of participants.
- 100% of meals must be provided by a restaurant not currently participating in a state or federal meal service program.
- Data requirements include documentation of the lack of other State or local resources to fill the need including, but not limited to food banks, PNPs, State funding sources, and additional federal resources, including ones that may be available under the multiple Congressional Supplemental Funding Bills known as the CARES Act, or any other additional resources made available at the time of your request.

#### **Suggested Short-Term Tasks (Direction from Governor's Office)**

- Evaluate capacity for local program administration based on current service network capacity and performance, number of meals provided, and existing collaborative efforts with other jurisdictions.
- Evaluate the availability of a delivery option.
- Determine best mechanism to ensure uniform and consistent reporting values across local programs and appropriate public assistance expenditures.
- Provide daily data reports to CDA to inform the Governor's office.