



December 4, 2025

Dear Members of the Senate Appropriations Committee:

The Alliance to End Hunger strongly urges you to honor and meet the food and nutrition needs of older Americans by assuring adequate resources for the Older Americans Act (OAA) Nutrition Title III-C Program, which includes support for both Congregate and Home-Delivered meals. Congregate meals are provided in senior centers, faith-based facilities, restaurants, and other convenient community locations; home-delivered meals provide a meal and a wellness check at home.

The [Alliance to End Hunger](#) is a coalition of over 100 corporations, national non-profits, faith-based organizations, universities, foundations, and international organizations. We work to address today's hunger and malnutrition needs and to solve the root causes of hunger at home and abroad with a shared conviction that ending hunger is both essential and possible. Meals on Wheels America (MOWA) is a member of the Alliance to End Hunger.

MOWA recently released [results](#) from a survey of 298 local meals providers that was commissioned to better understand the impacts of the 6-week federal government shutdown and delays in federal funding. The findings reveal a serious situation for providers and the seniors they serve:

- 93% of Meals on Wheels providers receive funding from federal sources such as the OAA block grants and USDA programs.
- 33% said they could not maintain services for a month without federal funding.
- 61% have already experienced or anticipate delays or disruptions in government funding this year.

Meals on Wheels programs across the country are facing growing waitlists as demand continues to rise and funding fails to keep pace with increased costs. Factors that are deepening senior hunger and isolation include inadequate federal funding, growing demand from America's rapidly aging population, and high costs for food, fuel, and program operations.

To help address these unmet needs, emergency supplemental funding for the OAA Nutrition Program has been proposed. Representative Vern Buchanan (FL-16) and Representative Suzanne Bonamici (OR-1) are leading a bipartisan [letter](#) to House Appropriations Committee Chairman Robert Aderholt (AL-4) and Ranking Member Rosa DeLauro (CT-3) urging this supplemental funding through upcoming appropriations bills or a separate long-term funding bill.

Senior meals are a savvy investment that can save funds down the line; the cost of one year of meals for one person is financially equivalent to one day in the hospital or ten days in a nursing home.¹

The Alliance to End Hunger asks that your office support efforts to ensure that the OAA Nutrition Program receives the resources needed to reduce waitlists and continue delivering meals, safety checks, and social connections to vulnerable older adults.

Thank you for your consideration of our request. You hold the power to change lives; please choose to help seniors who are struggling to meet their nutrition needs.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Eric P. Mitchell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Eric" and last name "Mitchell" clearly legible.

Eric P. Mitchell
President
Alliance to End Hunger

¹ MOWA Fact Sheet Resources and Methods, 2025,
[MOW-Improves-Health-and-Saves-Money_Sources_Methods_May-2025-1.pdf](#)