

How Grocery Stores Can Partner with Senior Nutrition Programs

Who are senior nutrition providers?

The Older Americans Act (OAA) Senior Nutrition Program provides healthy meals; nutrition screening, education, and counseling; and other services that support older adults. Each day, about 5,000 local senior nutrition providers serve an estimated 1 million meals to older Americans across the country. Local programs deliver meals to homebound older adults throughout their region and/or serve congregate meals where older adults (60+) can socialize over a meal. The providers focus on underserved communities and other older adults in greatest need.

How can grocery stores partner?

- Cater for your local nutrition programs and senior centers.
- Assist delivery meal programs by cooking and/or delivering meals.
- Cross-promote each other's services and products.
- Engage local programs with your nutrition and other health offerings.
- Donate produce and commercially-prepared foods that have passed the "Best By" date but are still safe to eat, like breads.
- Host senior nutrition food drives.

What benefits would grocery stores get from partnering?

- Reduce your food waste.
- Deduct your donations; most nutrition programs are nonprofits.
- Maximize the use of your commercial kitchen.

- [5.2 million older adults](#) in America are food insecure; partnering with a nutrition program can provide life-saving support for older adults in your community.

How can grocery stores approach local senior nutrition providers?

- Connect with your local area agency on aging, home-delivered meals program, or senior center.
- Establish goals for the partnership.
- Engage nutrition programs with innovative ideas.

How can grocery stores find local providers?

Local senior nutrition programs are spread across rural and urban areas and found in senior centers, town centers, senior living facilities, faith-based spaces, Aging and Disability Resource Centers, and more. Go to eldercare.acl.gov or call 1-800-677-1116 to find your local program.

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