



**Coronavirus Relief Funds**  
**Adult Day Service and Senior Center Provider Relief – Nutrition Support**

<b>Funding Opportunity ID</b>	OBM011138-CRF-3-AGE
<b>Awarding Agency</b>	Ohio Department of Aging
<b>Project Period Start Date</b>	3/1/2020
<b>Project Period End Date</b>	12/31/2021
<b>Application Due Date</b>	On/Before 11:59 pm on 9/24/2021
<b>Funding Details</b>	<a href="#">Coronavirus Relief Funds: Adult Day Service and Senior Center Provider Relief – Nutrition Support</a>
<b>Application</b>	<a href="#">Register for this Funding Opportunity</a>
<b>Contact for Questions</b>	<a href="mailto:ElderConnections@age.ohio.gov">ElderConnections@age.ohio.gov</a>

**PURPOSE**

The State of Ohio is distributing Coronavirus Relief Funds (CRF) provided to the state from the US Department of Treasury as part of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act ("CARES Act"). The Ohio Department of Aging is accepting applications to support nutrition infrastructure for Adult Day Service Facilities and Senior Centers who were impacted by the increased demand of nutrition services due to the COVID-19 pandemic. These funds will be distributed through the Ohio Office of Budget and Management at the direction of the Ohio Department of Aging.

Adult Day Service Facilities and Senior Centers were impacted significantly during the pandemic due to the high degree of susceptibility to COVID-19 and the congregate nature of the nutrition services provided to the public.

In immediate response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Ohio Senior Centers quickly transitioned congregate meal services to providing home-delivered and grab-and-go style meals to eligible older adults. In Ohio, home-delivered meal services increased by approximately 50% during the pandemic, as more older adults required, and depended on in-home meal assistance. This increase resulted in significant challenges for our food industry supply chains and infrastructure. Nevertheless, Ohio's aging service providers rose to the challenge to meet local needs.

Equipment and supplies to support this quick transition were identified as a need and continues to be a critical component to sustaining the current caseload of meal consumers. Senior Centers and Adult Day Service Facilities provide essential nutrition support to older adults by means of meals and snacks throughout the day, often with limited capacity and infrastructure. Ongoing nutrition support is necessary to assist providers in maintaining nutrition services in situations of COVID-19 outbreaks, such as experienced with the delta variant.

This provider relief opportunity will focus on Adult Day Service Facilities' and Senior Centers' important priority of supporting nutrition services, including home-delivered meals and congregate (group) meals. Funds may be used to assist with the safe re-opening and operation of meal programs, including costs associated with COVID-19 cleaning and sanitation supplies, personal protective equipment, emergency

***Fostering sound public policy, research, and initiatives that benefit older Ohioans.***

preparedness procedures and protocols, preparation supplies (temporary sinks, thermometers, etc.), technology solutions, and other expenses. Additionally, funds may be used to support innovative nutrition strategies and programs to increase consumer service. This will help to unite older adults with additional community services to meet social and economic needs that have surfaced during the pandemic, including food access and assistance, nutrition education, health and wellness programs, and social inclusion promotion and support.

As the pandemic continues, it is critical to continue responding and resolving unmet nutrition needs of at-risk older Ohioans. This opportunity is just one solution to address such need.

### **ELIGIBLE ENTITIES**

Providers of Adult Day Service Facilities and Senior Centers are eligible to apply and should apply separately, if applicable. All Adult Day Facilities and Senior Centers are eligible to apply, regardless if they received previous awards through the first and second funding opportunities.

### **ELIGIBLE EXPENSES**

This provider relief opportunity will be used to assist with the safe re-opening and operation of meal programs, including costs associated with COVID-19 cleaning and sanitation supplies, personal protective equipment, emergency preparedness procedures and protocols, preparation supplies, technology solutions, and other expenses.

The following include eligible expenses:

- **COVID-19 Sanitation**
  - Supplies including touch-less hand sanitizer stations, water bottle refill fountains, etc.
- **Emergency Preparation**
  - Strategies to prepare for COVID-19 outbreaks and/or natural disasters including shelf stable meals, information about emergency food programs, food safety information, emergency food supplies, temporary sinks, thermometers, etc.
- **Technology**
  - Technology/software to enhance data collection for meals (technology solutions to track meals, Senior Dine, etc.);
  - Software for nutrition adequacy of meals; and,
  - Technology to support of virtual meals/companion meals delivery including lending library of tablets and software.
- **Community Nutrition Support**
  - Supplies to support nutrition assistance programs (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, Commodity Supplemental Food Program, Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program) including assistance with applications, equipment to support delivery or storage of produce boxes, etc.
- **Kitchen and Dining Room Equipment**
  - Equipment to support choice and fresh food consumption (salad bars);
  - Restaurant equipment especially support scratch cooking in meals (steam jackets, prep tables, cooling tables, holding cabinets, mixers, mobile equipment, steam kettles, soup kettles, ovens, hot food tables, refrigerated salad/sandwich prep tables, etc.);
  - Equipment to support local food procurement (storage/handling supplies and produce preparation- produce cutters and slicers); and,
  - Innovation of meals (food truck, new models of congregate meals).

- **Meal Delivery Equipment**
  - Refrigerated trucks, insulated food boxes and carriers, mobile carts, etc.
- **Menu/M meal Enhancements** (design, offerings, etc.)
  - Enhancements to allow for more culturally appropriate and person-centered meals; and,
  - Adding alternative meal choices (vegetarian, vegan, gluten-free, etc.).
- **Marketing and Promotion**
  - Rebranding of congregate and home delivered meals; and,
  - “Welcome Back” events to increase participation/interest. During any offered events, please do so safely based on local public health guidance.
- **Consumer Satisfaction**
  - Supplies/ information to address consumer satisfaction of meals;
  - Meal site/meal delivery satisfaction surveys; and,
  - Taste-testing new recipes/menus.
- **Nutrition Education**
  - Developing or updating existing nutrition education materials, including handouts, signage, menus, posters, etc.; and,
  - Promote more frequent nutrition screenings and/or nutrition education.
- **Disease Prevention and Health Promotion**
  - Supplies/training/licensure to promote disease prevention and health promotion activities.
- **Aesthetic and Safety Enhancements**
  - Support of behavioral economic principles, appropriate spacing and design, etc.
- **Other Nutrition Supports** (as approved by ODA)
  - Expenses that were not captured in the other categories that your organization would want considered by the Ohio Department of Aging.

#### **CONTACT FOR QUESTIONS**

Please direct any/all inquiries to [ElderConnections@age.ohio.gov](mailto:ElderConnections@age.ohio.gov).