



Oregon

Theodore R. Kulongoski, Governor

Department of Human Services

Office of the Director
500 Summer St. NE, E-15
Salem, OR 97301
503-947-5110
Fax: 503-378-2897
TTY: 503-947-5080

May 4, 2009

The Honorable Margaret Carter, Co-Chair
The Honorable Peter Buckley, Co-Chair
Joint Committee on Ways and Means
900 Court Street NE
H-178 State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301-4048



Re: ARRA Grant for Home-Delivered and Congregate Nutrition Services

Dear Co-Chairpersons:

The U.S. Administration on Aging has awarded ARRA funds to Oregon, under the guidance of the Older Americans Act, in the amount of \$402,303 for home-delivered meals and \$817,179 for congregate meals. The funds are to be used to provide meals to seniors in need of food, restore nutrition services that have been cut and restore staff positions that may have been eliminated or reduced. These funds were allocated to States by the same population-based formula (60+ population) that is used to distribute Older Americans Act funds.

The ARRA funding will provide additional support to the existing congregate and home-delivered meal programs administered by Oregon's Area Agencies on Aging through funding from the Older Americans Act. Due to the rising cost of food, many of Oregon's existing programs have struggled to meet expenses at a time when demand has increased. The following are the pre-ARRA funding levels to the Area Agencies on Aging for the nutrition programs:

Biennium	Congregate Meals	Home-Delivered Meals
2007-2009 (actual)	\$9,312,112	\$4,723,685
2009-2011 (estimate)	\$9,984,521	\$5,071,344

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The ARRA funding has the same 15% match requirement as the Older Americans Act programs. The match is provided by the Area Agencies on Aging and can come from either cash or in-kind sources; no State matching funds are required.

The Department was not required to apply for these funds as they were distributed to States by a population-based formula that took into account the Older Americans Act interstate funding formula minimums and the 60+ population of each state. The funds must be obligated on or before September 30, 2009 and fully expended by December 30, 2010. The Department will include these funds in its 2009-2011 expenditure limitation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'JS', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jim Scherzinger
Deputy Director of Finance

CC: John Britton, Legislative Fiscal Office
Sheila Baker, Legislative Fiscal Office
Blake Johnson, Department of Administrative Services