



Three Square Food Bank - 2019 State Legislative Priorities

Home Delivered Meals for the Frail and Elderly on Medicaid

Purpose: Include home delivered meals as a billable Medicaid service for the homebound elderly who lack adequate nutrition.

Fiscal Note: To be determined.

Regulation/Mandate: None proposed, this is a voluntary program.

Bill components:

- Include home delivered meals among the billable services available in the Medicaid waiver program for the Frail and Elderly by including anticipated expenses/revenue in the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services budget.
- Secure commitments from gubernatorial candidates to keep this line item in the proposed budget to the Nevada Legislature in 2019
- Improve nutrition access and services to homebound seniors by passing a state budget that includes home delivered meals in the Frail and Elderly program Medicaid waiver.

Background: More than 2,000 older Nevadans (age 65+) receive additional services billable through a specific Medicaid waiver program due to their advanced ages or illnesses. Home delivered nutrition is not currently one of these options, though it is an option for Medicaid recipients who receive services through a different waiver for those with physical and cognitive disabilities. This recommendation to align available Medicaid services for both populations stems from the “Nutrition Gaps Analysis for Older Nevadans”, a report by the Division of Health and Human Services and approved by the Governor’s Council on Food Security.

According to the report, “Nutrition Gaps Analysis for Older Nevadans”, here are key points about home delivered meals (HDM):

- Programs provide needed food to a vulnerable population and socialization which helps with isolation and depression
- Quality food is provided to older Nevadans.
- HDM drivers conduct well checks to ensure client is eating meals and in good health
- Homebound older Nevadans and those living in rural areas are at risk of isolation and food insecurity, and lack opportunities for socialization.

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