

December 4, 2020

Dear Senior Diner,

The Milwaukee County Department on Aging is committed to the safety and needs of older adults. Among these, we take food security very seriously. When COVID-19 struck, we expanded our Senior Dining program to include meal delivery to those diners who were unable to drive to our dining sites for curbside meals. We also began providing weekend meals. We were able to provide these service enhancements for the past six months because of temporary funding that we received from the federal government.

We are now at the point where our federal COVID-19 funding is running out. As of January 1, unfortunately we will no longer be able to provide weekend meals. We also need to significantly reduce the number of meal deliveries in order for this service to continue.

If you currently receive meal deliveries, we are asking you to please arrange one of the following options:

- **Curbside Senior Dining:** We encourage anyone who is able to join us for Curbside Senior Dining. When we transitioned our congregate model to a curbside model, we built in COVID-19 safety precautions for staff and diners. All diners can remain in their car and pull up to the site to receive their meal. Dining site staff wear masks and will hand you the meal through your car window. Curbside Senior Dining has proven to be a safe and effective way to provide daily meals to our older adults each day.
- Utilize a Proxy for Senior Dining: We understand that some participants may not have access to transportation or may be unable to come out to our curbside dining locations. Any senior diner who is unable to pick up their meal can identify a proxy who can pick it up on their behalf. To make arrangements for a proxy to pick up your meals, please call your local senior dining site.
- **Meals on Wheels:** Meals on Wheels is available for older adults who are homebound and unable to cook for themselves. To learn more about this program or to register for Meals on Wheels, please call our Aging Resource Center at (414) 289-6874.

Helping you connect to food resources is very important to us. If you have questions or want to talk through these options, please call our Aging Resource Center at (414) 289-6874. We are here to help.

Sincerely,

Gaylyn Reske

**Senior Dining Program Coordinator**