

Home Delivered Meals Provided by DFTA Will Continue Uninterrupted Despite President's FY 2018 Proposal

March 21, 2017

The NYC Department for the Aging (DFTA) wants to reassure our meal recipients – and those who care for them – that the meal services we provide, which homebound seniors rely on, will continue uninterrupted.

The President's proposed budget for 2018 calls for eliminating funding for federal programs within the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), including the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG). The proposed \$3 billion cut would eliminate CDBG funding to states to use for a variety of programs, including supporting senior nutrition programs, such as home-delivered meals.

In New York City, home-delivered meals are funded through DFTA and on weekends through a public-private partnership with Citymeals on Wheels. These programs do not receive funding from HUD, and thus, currently are not at risk of being de-funded.

However, because the budget outline released by the President lacks many details on individual agency spending, **we do not know exactly how this overall cut would affect most Older Americans Act programs.** This is a preliminary budget that has to be approved by both houses of Congress.

We urge all those who are concerned about these potential cuts to let their Congressional representatives know how vital home-delivered meals are to our homebound older adult neighbors, our families and communities. You can contact your local representative by calling the Capitol Switchboard at (202) 224-3121 to reach DC offices, and district office phone numbers can be found on Congress Members' websites.