
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Agging Network at Work Feeding Homebound Seniors

West Palm Beach, FL – The Aging Network of Palm Beach and the Treasure Coast is receiving federal stimulus funding to support 60+ seniors with food during COVID-19. The Area Agency on Aging of Palm Beach/Treasure Coast (Agency) is ensuring the funding goes to support homebound seniors in a 5-county area under a contract with Florida’s Department of Elder Affairs.

The Agency Helpline (**1-866-684-5885**) is the gateway to services for seniors in need of Meals, Respite for the Caregiver, Adult Day Care, In-home Services, Personal Care, Food Stamps (SNAP) and Extra Help for prescription drugs and Medicare Savings programs. Over the past week, Helpline specialists released over 1,800 seniors from a wait list for services and those seniors are now receiving food through the Aging Network. An additional 500 new clients have reached out and are receiving meals.

“The Aging Network is comprised of prominent providers/community agencies who are experts in senior care and programming,” said Dwight D. Chenette, MPH, MBA, Chief Executive Officer, Area Agency on Aging Palm Beach/Treasure Coast. “Our providers at the Volen Center and Palm Beach County Division of Senior Services routinely provide a full complement of services such as senior centers, adult day care, congregate food sites, social support, transportation, telephone reassurance, counseling and in-home services. During COVID-19, the Aging Network Providers throughout Palm Beach and Treasure Coast are solving many challenges being experienced by seniors including food.”

“The full release of wait list clients has never happened before and is unprecedented,” said Elizabeth L. Lugo, President and Chief Executive Officer, the Volen Center. “In this COVID-19 time, new and existing clients are so appreciative of our support and we are blessed to give back and provide our seniors the help they need and deserve.”

Seniors in need of services, including food are encouraged to call the Agency Helpline at **1-866-684-5885**.

“Palm Beach County Division of Senior Services (DOSS) works hand in hand with the Helpline to ensure seniors are connected with the appropriate services,” said Faith Manfra, MSW, MS, Director, Palm Beach County Division of Senior Services. “DOSS continues to serve existing clients as well as new clients for emergency meals at this difficult time. We are grateful for our many partners, especially our partnership with Palm Tran.”

Seniors registered through the Agency Helpline and served by the Volen Center and Palm Beach County Division of Senior Services are able to receive food on a scheduled basis in a “drop and go” fashion without leaving their cars.

Seniors and adults with a disability may call the Helpline at **1-866-684-5885** for access to services such as food, electric bill assistance and help with Medicare and caregiver resources. As an outgrowth of the Older Americans Act, the Helpline is, as always, the gateway to publicly funded services, Medicaid and long term care needs.

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The Area Agency on Aging is dedicated to promoting, supporting and advocating for the independence, dignity and wellbeing of seniors, adults with disabilities, veterans of all ages and those who care for them in a manner that values diversity, reflects the communities we serve and embraces the collaboration of the aging network.

Learn more about us at www.YourADRC.org