

defeat **malnutrition** today

2021 Policy Agenda Webinar

FEBRUARY 2, 2021

Background

We started in 2015 with a handful of groups and have grown to 107 national, state and local member organizations

All interested in combatting older adult malnutrition

Joined in 2020:

- Cynthia Chow and Associates
- Massachusetts Councils on Aging
- Meals on Wheels Western South Dakota
- MySurgeryPlate LLC
- Neighborly Care Network
- NOBEL Women
- Open Hand Atlanta
- se4a

- AARP Foundation
- Abbott Nutrition
- Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics
- AgeWell Senior Services
- Aging & In-Home Services of Northeast Indiana, Inc.
- Alliance for Aging Research
- Altarum Institute Center for Elder Care and Advanced Illness
- Alzheimer's Foundation of America
- American Academy of Physician Assistants
- American Geriatrics Society
- American Society for Nutrition
- American Society for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition (ASPEN)
- American Society on Aging
- American Women's Medical Association
- AOTA
- Area Agency on Aging 3 (Lima, OH)
- Area Office on Aging of Northwestern Ohio, Inc.
- Avalere Health
- Benjamin Rose Institute on Aging
- Berks Encore
- Caregiver Action Network
- Chautauqua County Office for the Aging
- Coastline Elderly Services, Inc.
- Community Servings
- Cynthia Chow and Associates
- Defeat Malnutrition Today Philadelphia
- Elder Justice Coalition
- Elixir North America
- Feeding America
- Food Research and Action Center
- Generations United
- God's Love We Deliver
- Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources, Inc.
- Healthcare Nutrition Council
- HealthyWomen
- Helping Hands of Las Vegas Valley
- Hunger Free America
- International Council on Active Aging
- Latino Integrative Nutrition Initiative (LINI)
- Lewis Mason Thurston Area Agency on Aging
- LifeCare Alliance
- MANNA
- Maryland Department of Aging
- Massachusetts Councils on Aging
- MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger
- Meals on Wheels America
- Meals on Wheels Association of Pennsylvania
- Meals on Wheels of the Greater Lehigh Valley
- Meals on Wheels Western South Dakota
- Medicaid Health Plans of America
- Medline Industries
- MidPen Resident Services
- MySurgeryPlate LLC
- NACOG AAA
- National Alliance for Caregiving
- National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (n4a)
- National Association of Nutrition and Aging Services Programs (NANASP)
- National Black Nurses Association
- National Board of Physician Nutrition Specialists
- National Council on Aging
- National Foundation to End Senior Hunger
- National Grange
- National Hispanic Council on Aging
- National Hispanic Medical Association
- National Indian Council on Aging
- National Medical Association
- National Minority Quality Forum
- National Recreation and Park Association
- National Silver Haired Congress
- Neighborly Care Network
- Nestle Health Science
- NETWORK
- NOBEL Women
- North Dakota Senior Service Providers
- Open Hand Atlanta
- PA Foundation
- Philadelphia Corporation for Aging
- Project Angel Food
- PurFoods/Mom's Meals
- RetireSafe
- Roche Dietitians
- SAGE - Services and Advocacy for GLBT Elders
- Salvation Army
- Senior Connections, The
- Capital Area Agency on Aging
- Senior Nutrition Program- Santa Clara County
- SeniorServ
- Society for Nutrition Education and Behavior
- South Dakota Adult Nutrition Program
- Southeastern Association of Area Agencies on Aging (se4a)
- State of NC's OAA Nutrition Services
- Textured Food Innovations
- The Gerontological Society of America
- The National Caucus and Center on Black Aging
- The National Consumer Voice for Quality Long-Term Care
- TIRR Memorial Hermann
- Tivity Health
- Trinity Health
- Tufts University Human Nutrition Research Center on Aging
- University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill Hospital Emergency Department
- Vermont Association of Area Agencies on Aging
- Veterans Health Council
- VNA Meals on Wheels
- Washington Association of Area Agencies on Aging
- Washoe County Social Services, Senior Nutrition Services
- West Health
- Western Reserve AAA
- YMCA of the USA

2020 Highlights

A bipartisan Senate resolution recognizing Malnutrition Awareness Week™ 2020 was passed by the full Senate on November 12, 2020

- It was led by Sens. Chris Murphy and Chuck Grassley and co-sponsored by over 20 Senators

The Older Americans Act reauthorization was signed into law

- It includes first-time malnutrition screening and prevention language

After numerous oral and written comments to the Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee and a meeting with the agencies responsible for writing the Guidelines, older adult malnutrition and sarcopenia were included in the Guidelines

We updated our National Blueprint: Achieving Quality Malnutrition Care for Older Adults

We launched a COVID-19/malnutrition informational site which has received over 2,000 views

With That...

We'd like to make 2021 another successful year and build on the progress already made

We're interested in a few key areas this year:

- Adoption of malnutrition composite electronic clinical quality measure
- Implementation of Older Americans Act reauthorization provisions
- Funding for federal nutrition programs

But plan to cover a lot of other ground as well

Malnutrition Composite Electronic Clinical Quality Measure (eCQM)

Have already submitted comments to the MAP (Measure Application Process) – received a recommendation conditional on National Quality Forum review/recommendation

Next step: NQF will review this month and we will submit comments there

Then, CMS advocacy involving our members and potentially select members of Congress like Senate co-sponsors

Older Americans Act Implementation

Implementation of 2020 reauthorization which added malnutrition screening to the definition of nutrition screening and added preventing malnutrition to the purposes of the nutrition program

Possible work to have a standard definition of malnutrition included in future iterations and addition of sarcopenia?

Working to have malnutrition screening questions added to the National Survey of OAA Participants to capture data on OAA participants with malnutrition

Also, need for screening to reflect equity

Federal Funding

FY 2022 funding advocacy starts as early as this month with requests for input from congressional offices and later the release of the President's budget proposal

Expect to be working closely with coalition members on funding requests for Older Americans Act nutrition programs, USDA nutrition and research programs, and other important nutrition-related funding

Also interested in emergency supplemental funding for these programs

MAW Resolution

Very pleased by the adoption of the Malnutrition Awareness Week™ resolution by the Senate!

Plan to work with ASPEN and others to get further formal Congressional recognition for Malnutrition Awareness Week™ in 2021

2020 co-sponsors:

- Sinema (AZ)
- Booker (NJ)
- Blumenthal (CT)
- Capito (WV)
- Coons (DE)
- Hassan (NH)
- King (ME)
- Roberts (KS)
- Feinstein (CA)
- Lankford (OK)
- Wyden (OR)
- Van Hollen (CT)
- Cramer (ND)
- Cardin (MD)
- Smith (MN)
- Manchin (WV)
- Tillis (NC)
- Collins (ME)
- Ernst (IA)
- Rosen (NV)
- Scott (SC)

Other Legislative Items

Confirmation hearing questions (HHS, CMS, ACL)

From the report language on medically tailored meals build something more and/or prioritize the McGovern bill

Advocate for the Medical Nutrition Therapy Act

Look at possible legislative (or regulatory) activity around the Welcome to Medicare exam and annual wellness visits to include questions on malnutrition

Malnutrition information in Medicare handbook

Malnutrition materials provided to members who sign up for nutrition services under MA?

Explore possibility of Congressional working group on malnutrition and older adults

Farm Bill reauthorization prep

Further Congressional Activity

Continue to cultivate existing relationships with staff and members and make new members/staff aware of this issue

- Work to cultivate more champions in House particularly

Look for other possible relevant committee or subcommittee activity in both House and Senate; testify and/or submit written testimony

Sharing op-eds, journal articles, etc. as we write them throughout the year with key staff

Other Regulatory Items

Continue to build on National Resource Center on Nutrition and Aging's work and establish relationships with new Center

New Dietary Guidelines and future focus on older adults – will continue to look for opportunities to influence this process

Participating in the Federal Nutrition Research Initiative

White House Conference on Health and Nutrition?

Administration Relationships

Working with ACL partners on National Nutrition Month, Older Americans Month, and Malnutrition Awareness Week™

Further strengthen connections with other federal agencies/departments that could be brought into this effort, such as CDC, SAMHSA, NIH/NIA, NIH/NIDDK, etc.

Continue sharing op-eds, journal articles, etc. throughout the year with key staff

Upcoming Advocacy Materials

Planning to release an updated State Legislative Toolkit this month

To follow – state advocacy toolkit, federal legislative and advocacy toolkits

Wrap-Up

We hope to work more with all of you and hear more from you

Please email at any time with questions, comments

We look forward to another fantastic and productive year

Check out our website at <http://defeatmalnutrition.today>

Email info@defeatmalnutrition.today or mponder@matzblancato.com