

APPENDIX G

FOOD SHELF ASSESSMENT

Self-Assessment for Serving Older Adults

Transportation:

- Is your facility located on public transportation such as a bus-line or light rail?
- Deliver to individuals who are homebound or who have difficulty in getting to your location
- Organization has a mobile food shelf program
- Older adults or others able to order on-line to expedite pick-ups
- Have locations near any concentrations of older adult populations

Comments:

Marketing/Outreach/Complementary Programs:

- Special “older adult days” or “older adult hours”
- Help enroll seniors in SNAP and/or provide information on how to enroll in SNAP
- Health screenings, programs, activities or resource and referrals for older adults
- Provide nutritional risk assessments at your sites
- Do Bridges to Benefits Assessments
- Post information related to a range of services

If you do not provide nutritional risk assessments, would it be helpful to have information on nutritional risk assessments? Yes / No

How do you market your program to senior populations? **Check all that apply:**

- Through Public Service Announcements
- We specifically discuss services and foods for particular age groups and populations
- We have information on how to sign up/use food shelf in short infomercials at health clinics
- We provide information for seniors and why they should use food shelf at local churches
- We market to home health care agencies
- We market to caregivers (if yes, how have you marketed to caregivers?)
- Large wall posters to market other programs for which seniors might be eligible.
- Other:

For any of the items that you did not check because you are not doing this activity or step, what are the barriers that prevent you from doing these particular things? **Check all that apply:**

- Space limitations
- Too few staff and/or volunteers
- Not enough equipment
- Would need funding to accomplish this

Do you have information on hand that helps explain expiration and sell by dates on food or terms such as “food rescue”? Yes / No

Resources and Tools

Food Shelf Assessment

The age range of 50-65 is considered a young older adult group that may not fit into other food support programs and may have some unique needs despite being young as compared to individuals who are over 65 years of age.

Physical/structural

Compliance with ADA regulations are often necessary for government grants. These regulations also serve as a guide for helping to better serve older adults. <http://www.ada.gov/>

Comment:

Do you have the following: **Check all that apply.**

- There are ramps and handicap accessible doors to the building
- Items on shelves within reach rather than on high or very low shelves
- Assistance to help in reading small print on items: Magnifying glasses, volunteers
- Benches/chairs within your shopping area if someone needs to stop and rest
- Waiting area with things to read for all ages including referral info to other resources
- Assistance available to carry items out to a car or bus
- Good lighting throughout your facility
- Small, strong bags with good handles

Comments:

Purchasing Practices:

Please check all of the following that you presently do and provide comments at the end.

- Special programs that allow older adults and caregivers to come to your location more than once a month to pick up fewer items each time
- Allow for family members, or caregivers, and/or friends to pick up items for older adults
- Special labeling or information related to typical health conditions for seniors such as items that are low in sodium, or low in fat or suitable for individuals with diabetes
- Cans and boxes that provide smaller serving sizes for seniors
- Items available that are easy to open
- Items that can be prepared in a microwave for those not comfortable cooking on a stove
- Staff or volunteers that are able to help shoppers

Comments: