

Senior Meals and Services

202 4th Ave Devils Lake, ND 58301 (701) 662-5061

September 21, 2026

Dear Senior Meals Clients,

Senior Meals and Services (SMS) is committed to providing nutritious, reliable meals for older adults throughout our region. As many of you know, the cost of food, supplies, and transportation has continued to rise. We want to share some important information with you, so you understand how our program is funded and how your contributions make a real difference.

At this time, **each meal provided by SMS costs \$15.63** to prepare and deliver.

Congregate Meals

- Average client contribution: **\$2.62**
- State reimbursement: **\$7.62**
- Remaining cost SMS must cover: **\$5.39 per meal**

Home-Delivered, Take-Out, and Frozen Meals

- Average client contribution: **\$2.34**
- State reimbursement: **\$8.89**
- Remaining cost SMS must cover: **\$4.40 per meal**

These remaining costs must be covered through fundraising, grants, donations, and contributions from clients who are able to give. Your contributions help us bridge this gap so we can continue offering meals to everyone who needs them.

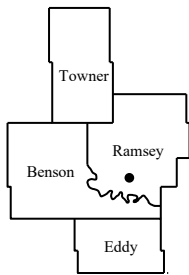
Why Your Contribution Matters

If you are able, contributing **the full suggested rate of \$5.00 per meal** greatly strengthens our ability to continue providing meals throughout the year. Every dollar helps us offset rising costs and maintain the quality and consistency of our services.

Important Funding Note

Each fiscal year, SMS receives a set amount of state funding. Once that funding is fully used, **any additional meals provided are not guaranteed to be reimbursed by the state**. When this happens, SMS becomes responsible for **the full cost of \$15.63 per meal**. This is why your support — when you are able — is so important to sustain the program.

We understand that everyone's financial situation is different. **No one is ever denied a meal due to inability to contribute**. Your health, nutrition, and well-being remain our top priority. For those who can give a little more, your generosity helps ensure that all seniors in our community continue receiving meals.



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Thank you for being part of the Senior Meals program and for your continued support. Together, we can keep this vital service strong for everyone who depends on it.

With appreciation, Senior Meals & Services

Cathy Saele-Odendaal

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Executive Director