THE GEOGRAPHY OF HUNGER AND HEALTH
AARP’s Hunger Impact Mission

➢ To provide timely, appropriate, affordable, nutritious food to vulnerable 50+

http://endseniorhunger.aarp.org/
We’re entering a time of profound and permanent change to the demographic composition of America.

Every day 10,000 Boomers reach age 65.

By 2030 the United States will have twice as many people over the age of 65 as we have today.
The Age Wave in Iowa
THE ‘LONGEVITY ECONOMY’

In 2012 –
Estimated to be $7.1 Trillion
About 45 % of US - GDP

Huge economic impact – and huge business opportunities - presented by the 100 million aging U.S. baby boomers and seniors.
FOOD INSECURITY AMONG OLDER ADULTS

http://www.aarp.org/aarp-foundation/our-work/hunger.html
Trends in Senior Hunger by Age
Effects of Food Insecurity

- Older adults who experience food insecurity are significantly more likely...
  - to have lower intakes of energy and major vitamins,
  - to be in poor health, and
  - have limitations in activities of daily living (ADL).

- Documented health-related consequences include:
  - longer hospital stays,
  - impairment in physical function,
  - diminished immune response,
  - depression, and
  - social isolation.

Source: Food Insecurity Among Older Adults, AARP Foundation, 2011
AARP Foundation Expanding Hunger Work

1. Hunger as a Health Issue
2. Maximizing value for the low income consumer through the existing food supply chain
Real Possibilities for Hunger Impact

• Enhance nutritional quality, freshness and safety of foods consumed by the 50+ vulnerable population

• Provide for efficient distribution systems that work to reduce cost and increase availability and access to healthy, nutritious foods for low-income populations:
  – (a) food value chain leveraged to supply more nutritious foods in store/through delivery and
  – (b) medical systems leveraged for food by prescription

• Strengthen food knowledge to enhance buying power, purchasing habits and cooking skills that result in healthy, nutritious and age-appropriate meals
THANK YOU!

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