

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** January 1, 2024 **CONTACT:** Amy Finke, Deputy Director of Communications, (614) 981-3950

## Franklin County Office on Aging Extends Free Home-Delivered Meals Program Through 2024

**Columbus, OH** – Responding to the ongoing challenges posed by inflation and rising food costs, the <u>Franklin County Office on Aging</u> announces the extension of its free Home-Delivered Meals program through December 31, 2024. This extension ensures that Franklin County residents aged 60 and older can continue to receive free home-delivered meals without the need for income verification.

In 2023, the agency successfully delivered over 2.1 million meals to seniors in Franklin County, serving over 10,000 residents. This represents a remarkable 52% increase in residents served compared to 2022.

Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in April 2020, the Franklin County Office on Aging suspended income verification requirements for home-delivered meals through its Franklin County <u>Senior Options</u> program.

Established in 1993, Franklin County Senior Options offers a range of community-based services aimed at empowering residents aged 60 and older to maintain their independence. In addition to home-delivered meals, the program provides services such as adult day care, personal care, respite care, minor home repair, and emergency response systems. By connecting families to support services, the program also helps alleviate concerns and ensures the best possible care for older individuals with limited abilities.

To enroll for free home-delivered meals or to learn more about the services available through the Franklin County Office on Aging, call (614) 525-6200 or visit <u>officeonaging.org</u>.

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The Franklin County Office on Aging (FCOA) provides centralized access to diverse services and programs that assist older adults, dependent adults and their families in the maintenance of independent living. Learn more at <u>officeonaging.org</u> and follow FCOA on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Instagram</u>, <u>X</u> (formerly Twitter), <u>LinkedIn</u>, <u>TikTok</u> and <u>YouTube</u>.