

**ks**

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Michelle Stuffmann  
Phone: (424) 208-7203  
Email: mstuffmann@mazon.org

### **MAZON KICKS OFF YEAR 2 OF SOLUTIONS TO SENIOR HUNGER™ INITIATIVE**

*National initiative will help vulnerable seniors apply for vital nutrition assistance*

Los Angeles, [December 1]—In response to the escalating number of seniors struggling to put food on the table, MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger (MAZON) has launched the second year of its senior hunger initiative to help low-income, food-insecure seniors get the vital nutrition assistance they need. More specifically, *Solutions to Senior Hunger™*, which is conducted in partnership with the Association of Jewish Family & Children's Agencies (AJFCA) and generously funded by the Walmart Foundation, is designed to reduce the barriers that keep vulnerable seniors from enrolling in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

"Deeply embedded in Jewish tradition is the belief that the community has an obligation to sustain its most vulnerable," says Abby J. Leibman, President & CEO at MAZON. "It is unacceptable that a rising number of our nation's seniors struggle to put meals on the table when we have programs, like SNAP, that could help them buy nutritious food. As the only national Jewish organization focused exclusively on issues of hunger, MAZON is uniquely positioned to do this work. We bring 30 years of experience in the anti-hunger field, shaped by Jewish values and tradition, to a population that too often suffers in silence."

13 Jewish Human Service (JHS) agencies in 13 states have signed on to participate in the new round of this initiative. With support from MAZON and the AJFCA, these JHS agencies will conduct SNAP outreach and education to senior populations, administer SNAP application assistance for eligible clients, act as a liaison between the client and their local government agency managing SNAP, and identify barriers to assistance and work with MAZON to remove those barriers.

"AJFCA is thrilled to partner with MAZON in this important initiative," says Lee Sherman, President/CEO of AJFCA. "We have seen a rising trend of seniors in need of increased services across the United States. Solutions to Senior Hunger will give participating agencies the tools and resources they need to do more for their senior clients."

The 13 participating Jewish Family Service (JFS) agencies are:

- Jewish Family Service of Stamford Inc. (Stamford, Connecticut)
- Jewish Family Service of Greater New Orleans, Inc. (Metairie, LA)
- Jewish Family Service of Metrowest New Jersey (Florham Park, NJ)
- Jewish Family Service (Salt Lake City, UT)
- Jewish Family and Children's Service of Minneapolis (Minneapolis, MN)
- Jewish Family Service of the Cincinnati Area (Cincinnati, OH)
- Jewish Family and Children's Service (St. Louis, MO)
- Jewish Family & Children's Service (Phoenix, AZ)

- Jewish Family & Career Services (Louisville, KY)
- Jewish Family Service of Tidewater (Virginia Beach, VA)
- Yad Ezra Inc (Berkley, MI)
- Jewish Family Services, Inc. (Atlanta, GA)
- Jewish Family & Childrens Service (Pittsburgh, PA)

### **About MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger**

Founded in 1985, MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger is a national nonprofit organization working to end hunger among people of all faiths and backgrounds in the United States and Israel. For more information, please visit [mazon.org](https://mazon.org).

# # #