



DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
SENIOR & DISABLED SERVICES DIVISION
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AUTHORIZED BY: _____

**SDSD Administrator/Deputy/
Assistant Administrator**

INFORMATION MEMORANDUM

SDSD-IM-01-028

Date: March 19, 2001

TO: SDSD District and Unit Managers
Area Agency on Aging Directors

SUBJECT: Senior Farmers Market Program

INFORMATION: The Oregon Health Division, in partnership with Senior and Disabled Services Division, applied for a grant through the USDA. The Grant, Senior Farmers' Market Pilot Project, will allow SDSD and OHD to provide vouchers to low income seniors. These vouchers will be used at approved Farmer's Markets and Roadside Stands. This one year grant is for the "growing season" starting in June 2001 and terminating in October 2001.

In May 2001, SDSD will run a list of clients who meet the eligibility criteria as established in the grant. These are:

- ! Clients age 65 and older,
- ! 135% of federal poverty or below, and
- ! Receive Medicaid or Older Americans Act funded programs.

Each of these individuals will receive a letter explaining the pilot project with a "return postcard". Those who return the postcard will be mailed a packet of 50 \$2.00 vouchers totaling \$100.00, a list of approved roadside stands and farmers markets, instructions on how to use the vouchers and nutritional information. The vouchers may only be used for fresh fruits, vegetables and herbs at the approved sites.

SDSD Central Office will be coordinating the project. However, you may receive calls about the letters. In May, we will provide you samples of the letter, post card, vouchers and other materials. If you cannot answer the client's questions, you can forward the calls Jeff Miller, 503-945-6410.

All the approved roadside stands and farmers markets will be receiving training from the Oregon Health Division in conjunction with their WIC Farmers Market program. Any questions from the Stands or Markets should be referred to the Oregon Health Division.

Lane County

There will be a special component of the pilot project in Lane County. OHD, SDSD and the Oregon Department of Agriculture will be working with the Community Supported Agriculture program in Lane County to develop a program for the clients to have the fruits and vegetables delivered to their door. Lane County was chosen because of their well-developed Community Supported Agriculture Program.

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