



# OKLAHOMA'S LIVING CHOICE FOOD SECURITY PLAN

## Food Pantry Stocking

Money Follows the Person (MFP) also referred to as Oklahoma's Living Choice offers pantry stocking as a supplemental service. Pantry stocking is defined as the purchase of essential pantry items to ensure adequate and necessary access to food immediately following transition. This service provides essential pantry items and helps to support the members' need for adequate nutrition, ensuring the health and wellness of the members after transition. This supplemental service is not designed to be maintenance service but rather act as a bridge between transition and application to other nutritional assistance. Currently, it takes approximately (2) weeks or more post transition before the member gains access to their federal basic food benefit, which requires an application, an eligibility determination process and the issuance of the Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) food assistance card. For a list of Pantry Stocking items, see Appendix X: Living Choice Food Security Plan – Pantry Stocking List.

Target populations enrolled in the Living Choice program include Older Adults with a chronic illness, individuals with a Physical Disability and individuals with an Intellectual Disability. The individual cannot receive pantry stocking if they are currently receiving the same service through other federal, state, or locally funded programs. This service must be coordinated, billed, and payment received by the case management agency prior to member transition. However, pantry stocking may also be offered post-transition in situations where access to food is limited due to an emergency or natural disaster.



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**ADDRESS**

4345 N. Lincoln Blvd.  
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

**WEBSITES**

[oklahoma.gov/ohca](http://oklahoma.gov/ohca)  
[mysoonerhealth.org](http://mysoonerhealth.org)

**PHONE**

Admin: 405-522-7300  
Helpline: 800-987-7767



**A. Document the maximum amount of food assistance available per recipient through MFP-funded supplemental services:**

Pantry stocking will be provided with the following guidelines:

- A one-time service
- Coverage period of up to thirty (30) days
- Amount not to exceed \$500 per MFP eligible individual

Pantry stocking as a supplemental service may begin prior to transition, once an individual is approved to receive Living Choice services. Using the supplemental service amount the case manager will make the initial purchase of food items as selected by the member. See Appendix X: Living Choice Food Security Plan – Pantry Stocking List.

<b>Supplemental Service</b>	<b>Participants</b>	<b>Expenditure/Client</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
Food Security Plan	88	\$500	\$44,000

**B. Describe strategies for developing, strengthening and maintaining partnerships with food assistance programs:**

Case management providers assist members in completing applications for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits and connecting with other community resources. Living Choice staff will assist members, their families and case managers to locate community food resources, such as the following:

- [foodpantries.org](http://foodpantries.org) – lists 335 active food pantries in 130 cities in Oklahoma
- [doubleupoklahoma.org](http://doubleupoklahoma.org) – matches up to \$20 per day for SNAP benefits at participating stores • The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) - <https://www.fns.usda.gov/tefap/emergency-food-assistance-program>
- The Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) - <https://www.fns.usda.gov/csfp/commodity-supplemental-food-program>
- Oklahoma 211 – Food resource locator



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The Living Choice Outreach Coordinator will use feedback surveys to refine and improve outreach strategies based on insights from the community events and stakeholder input, ensuring target populations have access to essential food assistance services. The coordinator will also assist in developing, strengthening and maintaining partnerships with food assistance programs.

**C. Describe the individual's plan for building local outreach and referral networks:**

The state operates the Oklahoma 211 system that is designed to be an emergency resource locator for food and essential resources needed by Oklahomans. Oklahoma 211 offers information and referrals across all 77 counties for nutritional support services such as: food pantries, voucher programs, community gardens, holiday meals, grocery delivery services, etc. Case management providers assist members in completing applications for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits and connecting with other community resources. Living Choice staff will assist members, and their families, to locate additional community food resources as needed.

**D. Provide assurance and describe how the state will ensure access to food assistance for MFP individuals once the demonstration funding is no longer available:**

The state assures that as part of the person-centered planning process; it is the responsibility of the Living Choice case manager to support and encourage each member to determine how they will ensure access to food once the demonstration period has ended. As many Living Choice members will transition to another HCBS or PACE program, addressing access to food resources will continue to be part of the person-centered planning process. As a state plan benefit, members who transition from Living Choice to another state-funded program will have access to the services and supports mentioned in section B to address food insecurity.



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**OKLAHOMA**  
Health Care Authority

Information will be gathered from the Member Experience Survey (MES) conducted by Living Choice to determine how the Pantry Stocking service supported the members' assurance of having access to food and reducing anxiety that one may experience in not knowing where their next meal will come from. The data collected from the survey will be evaluated by program staff to learn if the service contributed to the independence and overall well-being of the members. As members who have transitioned become familiar with the food options in their local community, they will develop other resources to meet their needs.

**E. Describe how the state will oversee and monitor any participating managed care plans that are responsible for implementing any component of the food assistance supports:**

The Living Choice program currently does not participate in a managed care plan.



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