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Public Health
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Shelby County Health Department

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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COMMODITY SUPPLEMENTAL FOOD PROGRAM TO BEGIN OFFERING SENIOR FARMER'S MARKET NUTRITION PROGRAM NEXT MONTH

SHELBY COUNTY, TN – Shelby County Health Department's Commodity Supplemental Food Program kicks off its Senior Farmer's Market on July 1, 2021.

The Commodities Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) works to improve the health of low-income elderly persons at least 60 years of age by supplementing their diets with nutritious USDA-provided foods year round. During the summer months, CSFP recipients in Shelby County also benefit from the Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program.

During July and August, in addition to their regular food packages, seniors who participate in the CSFP program receive a total of \$40 (eight \$5 vouchers) which can be exchanged for fresh produce from approved vendors at farmer's markets and community-supported agriculture. The goal of the Farmer's Market Nutrition Program is to increase the consumption of fresh fruits and vegetables by seniors and to expand the awareness and use of produce grown by Tennessee farmers. Farmers benefit by selling more produce locally. During 2020, \$176,000 went to local farmers through the voucher program.

In order to participate, seniors must meet the following CSFP eligibility requirements:

- Reside in Shelby County
- 60 years of age or older
- Household income at or below 130 percent of the Federal Poverty Income Guidelines, based on household size:

<https://www.shelbytnhealth.com/DocumentCenter/View/1339/WIC-Income-Eligibility-Guidelines-2020---2021-English?bidId=>

Proof of age, residency and income is required for enrollment.

CSFP Participants receive these services:

- Commodity foods to meet his/her nutritional and developmental needs
- Nutritional education
- Referral to appropriate health care services.

Shelby County Health Department's Commodity Supplemental Food Program serves more than 4,000 Shelby County residents, making up approximately 44% of all the CSFP clients in Tennessee.

CSFP is accepting new clients who meet the eligibility requirements. For more information, visit our website: www.shelbytnhealth.com or call 901-222-9750.

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