



## **FOOD ASSISTANCE FOR THE ELDERLY AND DISABLED IS AVAILABLE NOW TO COMBAT COVID-19 DISTRESS**

### **A Message from Jefferson County Judge Jeff R. Branick**

Do you know of an older adult or people of any age with disability that needs meal service delivery or that suffers from food insecurity, malnutrition, or social isolation?

The **U.S. Department of Health and Human Services** (HHS) can help you or people you know in our community with those urgent needs.

The **Administration for Community Living** (ACL) was created to serve older adults and people of all ages with disabilities so that they are able to live where they choose, with the people they choose, and with the ability to participate fully in their communities.

By funding supporting services provided by networks of community-based organizations, and with investments in research, education, and innovation, ACL helps make this principle a reality for millions of Americans.

At a recent COVID-19 National Association of Counties presentation, HHS Assistant Secretary for Aging Lance Robertson provided a toll free number **800-677-1116** that the elderly, disabled or their friends and family can call. The service providers can speak English or Spanish. People who make the toll free call are transferred to a 'locator' who connects the elderly or disabled person to a service provider here in our community.

Individuals can also visit the <https://eldercare.acl.gov> website and you will be asked to enter your zip code so that you can be located and connected to a service provider. Let's work together to combat COVID-19 distress on our elderly and disabled citizens in need. Don't delay in seeking this valuable assistance!