



**August 16, 2023**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Cumberland County Office on Aging Announces Program to Provide Free Produce for Senior Citizens**

Bridgeton, NJ – Cumberland County Office on Aging is pleased to announce that through a grant with the N.J. Department of Health, the Office on Aging is processing applications and providing benefits for the USDA Senior Citizens Farmers Market Nutrition Program.

Cumberland County Commissioner and Office on Aging Liaison Carol Musso said “the County is very pleased to be able to again offer this Program to our seniors. This benefit may be used to purchase locally grown fresh fruits, vegetables, and herbs.”

Co Liaison Deputy Commissioner Antonio Romero said, “These are tough times we are living in and any assistance that we can offer to our citizens to aid in better nutrition I fully support. Better nutrition leads to better health that hopefully leads to overall better health outcomes.”

Eligible seniors must apply for the Farmers Market Coupons in the County in which they reside. They will receive \$50 worth of benefits to purchase Jersey Fresh items at eligible farmer markets. Seniors must be age 60 or older and a resident of Cumberland County. Income guidelines have been established at 185% of the Federal Poverty Level. A household of one can have a monthly gross income of up to \$2,248 and household of two can have a monthly gross income of up to \$3,041. Additional guidelines for families of 3 or more are available. To apply, bring your proof of age, proof of residence and proof of you 2023 income (or a Medicaid or SNAP card).

This program is available on a first-come first served basis and supplies are limited. The deadline to apply is September 30, 2023. New for 2023 and in place of checks, the benefit will be issued in a form of a gift card with a QR code to track the spending balance. For more information or for information on where to apply, please contact the Office on Aging and Disabled Outreach Office in Bridgeton at 856-453-2220 Monday thru Friday from 8:30am to 4:30pm.

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