

## **Guidelines for local agency use of proxies in the Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program**

In order to facilitate access of senior participants to the SFMNP, the State and Local Agencies permit a senior to designate an authorized representative or proxy. The proxy may be authorized to act in the senior's behalf by: applying for certification for SFMNP checks, physically receiving or picking up the checks, and shopping at the farmers' market or roadside stand.

The senior applicant must fully complete and sign the application. The senior must read or have read to him or her, the certification language advising them of their rights and obligations under SFMNP. The senior's signature indicates that they understand the certification language. This is true for any applicant for SFMNP benefits.

Seniors, who wish to do so, must also fully complete and sign the form designating the proxy.

The proxy may not be a staff member of the State or Local Agency, or a farmer participating in the program.

If the senior cannot present the application in person, the person acting as a proxy will bring the application (which includes the senior applicant's self – declaration of income), the senior's proof of age and residence (copies will be acceptable), and the proxy designation request signed by the senior, to the enrollment location.

The proxy will also show identification verifying they are the proxy named by the senior participant.

One person may serve as a proxy for a maximum of 3 senior participants.

The booklet of checks will contain the following statement (among other statements) on the inside front cover:

**The food purchased under this program is for the sole use and consumption of the certified eligible senior participant.**

Local Agencies may use this statement on their participant education materials. During the course of the program, Local Agencies should remind applicants and proxies that the fruit and vegetables purchased are solely for the senior participant to eat.