ACHP
ALLIANCE
OF COMMUNITY HEALTH PLANS

September 18, 2026

The Honorable James P. McGovern
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nicole Malliotakis
U.S. House Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives McGovern and Malliotakis:

On behalf of the Alliance of Community Health Plans (ACHP), I write to express strong support for the *Medically Tailored Home-Delivered Meals Program Pilot Act* (H.R. 5439) and to thank you for your bipartisan leadership in introducing it. This important legislation advances a commonsense approach to improving chronic disease outcomes by recognizing the important role nutrition plays in patient health.

ACHP is the only national organization promoting the unique payer-provider aligned model in health care. ACHP member companies collaborate with their provider partners to deliver higher-quality coverage and care to tens of millions of Americans across nearly all 50 states and D.C.

ACHP member companies have long recognized that preventing and managing chronic disease requires addressing the conditions that shape health outside the doctor's office, including access to nutritious food. Through ACHP's Chronic Disease Pledge, they are advancing measurable strategies to reduce diabetes, hypertension, obesity and other chronic conditions through prevention, care coordination and community partnerships.

Nutrition is central to this work. In comments to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, ACHP called on CMS to expand access to medically tailored meals, nutrition counseling and evidence-based community programs for Medicare beneficiaries, integrate nutrition and lifestyle screening into routine primary care and align payment and quality measures with nutrition and lifestyle outcomes.

ACHP member companies are already demonstrating the value of integrating nutrition into chronic disease management:

- **Independent Health (NY)** provides home-delivered meals to Medicare Advantage members following a hospital or skilled nursing facility stay and offers medically tailored meals and nutrition support to eligible Medicaid members with chronic conditions.
- **Health New England (MA)** partners with Mom's Meals to provide medically tailored, home-delivered meals following certain inpatient, skilled nursing facility or rehabilitation stays.

- **Mass General Brigham Health Plan (MA)** provides eligible MassHealth members with medically tailored meals, food and produce boxes and food vouchers through its Flexible Services program.
- **Fallon Health (MA)** partners with Epicured to provide medically tailored meals through its Summit ElderCare PACE program, integrating nutrition into coordinated care for older adults with chronic health needs. Separately, NaviCare connects eligible members with meal-delivery and food-security resources.
- **Baylor Scott & White Health Plan (TX)** incorporates one-on-one coaching on food choices, nutrition labels and meal tracking into its Be Well with Diabetes program.
- **Group Health Cooperative of South Central Wisconsin** pairs diabetes education and peer support with free boxes of diabetes-friendly produce through a local food pantry partnership.

Together, these efforts show how ACHP member companies are using nutrition to support patients, improve chronic disease outcomes and strengthen care. They also reinforce how a targeted Medicare pilot under H.R. 5439 will help build the evidence base on how medically tailored meals can improve outcomes, reduce avoidable health care utilization and support more effective chronic disease management for beneficiaries.

If you would like to discuss this work further or learn more about how ACHP member companies are integrating nutrition into chronic disease management, please contact Christopher DeVore, Associate Director, Legislative Affairs at cdevore@achp.org. ACHP appreciates your continued bipartisan leadership on medically tailored meals and looks forward to working with you to support enactment of H.R. 5439.

Sincerely,



Ceci Connolly
President and CEO
Alliance of Community Health Plans