



# NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

(R.—Kans.)

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WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Senator Bob Dole announced today that a grant of \$95,000.00 is being awarded to Kansas by the Federal Administration on Aging to establish an elderly outreach program designed to inform Kansans of their eligibility for benefits under the new Supplemental Security Income Program. The Federal SSI Program will replace the State program of Aid to the Aged, Blind and Disabled, effective January 1, 1974. Under the new SSI eligibility criteria, it is estimated that 45,000 elderly and disabled Kansans will be eligible for assistance under the SSI Program, who were not eligible under the State-administered program. The outreach grant awarded today will provide assistance to the various aging groups across the state so they might help identify the individuals now eligible for SSI payments and get them enrolled at the nearest Social Security Office.

Dole said the combined impact of the Older Americans Program and the Supplemental Security Income Program could provide a major plus for needy Kansas senior citizens during the coming year. The \$2.2 million in Federal funds made available to the State in August of this year under the Older Americans Act can mean hot meal programs and improved services for thousands of Kansans. To date, however, the State has made funds available only to the elderly in the Wyandotte County area and the elderly residents of Southeast Kansas. Dole said he had sent Governor Docking a telegram urging that the remaining \$1.6 million on hand at the State level be made available to the State's elderly before the end of the year when the authority for their expenditure expires.