

From Olympic Medical Center in Washington's 6th District:

"The benefits of the Medicaid Safety Net Assessment Program (SNAP) cannot be overstated. It has been a lifeline for hospitals like Olympic Medical Center in Clallam County, Washington. Olympic Medical Center is a safety net community hospital, with a mission to serve all patients in their community regardless of their ability to pay.

In pre-pandemic times OMC operated on a slim 2 to 3% margin. Since the pandemic, OMC has lost \$50 million (2022, 2023, Q3 2024). The most significant financial challenge OMC faces, is it serves an elderly and lower income population, resulting in a payer mix that is 85% government payer - Medicare and Medicaid. Both pay less than the cost of care. With the SNAP program, Medicaid reimbursement is approximately 85% of cost. Without SNAP, Olympic Medical Center receives less than 70% of cost from Medicaid.

Through the third quarter of 2024, Olympic Medical Center's operating margin was -4.7% (-\$9.3 million) and that is with the SNAP funding. If Olympic Medical Center had not received SNAP In 2024, its losses would be closer to a negative \$18 million for that time period.

Olympic Medical Center is struggling to survive and the SNAP was a desperately needed lifeline to help them maintain services and programs for its community of nearly 80,000 people. Losing access to SNAP puts access to healthcare at risk for this area of Washington State."