

# Social Security is Vital to Americans Nationwide



Social Security is a **trusted program** that reflects core values of hard work, fairness, and dignity.

## Built on work, backed by trust

- ✓ Americans rely on Social Security for **stability in retirement, in case of disability**, or when they **lose a working spouse**.
- ✓ Most people receiving Social Security have **paid into it all their lives**.
- ✓ **Over 70 million people** receive Social Security. Of those, **55% are women, 80% are older adults**, and approximately **10%** are workers with disabilities & survivors of deceased workers.

## Social Security secures our future

- ✓ Social Security **lifts more than 22 million people out of poverty**, including over 16 million older adults and almost 1 million children.
- ✓ **Half of older adults** rely on Social Security for the **majority** of their income.
- ✓ For **25% of adults**, Social Security contributes **90% of their income**.

Payment accuracy



**over 99%**

## Social Security delivers—but the wealthy must pay their fair share



**\$176,100**

When a person's annual income exceeds this amount, **they stop paying into** Social Security.

Average annual benefit



**\$22,000**

## Field offices and knowledgeable staff help people access benefits

- ✓ Social Security **serves more people** than ever, **with less funding**.
- ✓ Over **1,200 Social Security field offices** nationwide serve an average of **120,000 people each day**.

Customers calling Social Security face extremely **long wait times**.

Current plans to **close offices and cut staff by 7,000 workers** would harm people receiving Social Security, particularly those who need help applying for benefits.

Over the past decade:

Customer service budget has gone down

**19%**



**25%**

Number of people receiving benefits has gone up

**Closing offices and slashing jobs is a backdoor benefit cut when older adults and others can't get the help they need to access benefits.**