

# *Proclamation*

## **DESIGNATING MARCH 2023 AS A MONTH CELEBRATING THE OLDER AMERICANS ACT NUTRITION PROGRAM**

*Whereas*, on March 22, 1972, President Nixon signed into law a measure that amended the Older Americans Act of 1965 to include a national nutrition program for individuals 60 years and older. For over 50 years, this landmark law has helped to fund community-based organizations, like Meals on Wheels, and it is still the only federal program designed specifically to meet the nutritional and social needs of older adults; and

*Whereas*, each year, Meals on Wheels programs from across the country join together for the March for Meals awareness campaign to celebrate its success and garner the support needed to ensure these critical programs can continue to address food insecurity and malnutrition, combat social isolation, enable independence, and improve health for years to come; and

*Whereas*, Meals on Wheels programs in Indian River County have served our communities admirably for over 48 years and in the past year have provided 106,197 meals to 783 clients. Volunteers for Meals on Wheels programs in Indian River County are the backbone of the program and in the past year, 214 individuals volunteered a total of 21,378 hours delivering nutritious meals to seniors and individuals with disabilities who are at significant risk of hunger and isolation, but also caring concern and attention to their welfare.

*Now, Therefore, be it Proclaimed by the Board of County Commissioners of Indian River County, Florida*, that March 2023, is designated as a month celebrating the Older Americans Act Nutrition Program and urge every community member to take this month to honor our Meals on Wheels programs, the seniors they serve and the volunteers who care for them.

Adopted this 7th day of March, 2023.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA**

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Joseph H. Earman, Chairman

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Susan Adams, Vice Chairman

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Joseph E. Flescher

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Laura Moss

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