

PROCLAMATION

DESIGNATING THE MONTH OF MARCH, 2021, AS March for Meals Month

WHEREAS, on March 22, 1972, President Richard Nixon signed into law a measure that amended the Older Americans Act of 1965 and established a national nutrition program for seniors 60 years of age and older; and

WHEREAS, Meals on Wheels America established the National March for Meals Campaign in March 2002 to recognize the historic month, the importance of Older Americans Act Nutrition Programs, both congregate and home-delivered, and raise awareness about the escalating problem of senior hunger in America; and

WHEREAS, the 2021 observance of the March for Meals campaign provides an opportunity to support Meals on Wheels programs that deliver vital and critical services by donating, volunteering, and raising awareness about senior hunger and isolation; and

WHEREAS, Older Americans Act Nutrition Programs, both congregate and home-delivered, in Florida have served our communities admirably for more than 45 years; and

WHEREAS, volunteer drivers for Meals on Wheels programs in Florida are the backbone of the program, not only delivering nutritious meals to homebound seniors and individuals with disabilities, but with care, concern, and attention to their welfare; and

WHEREAS, Meals on Wheels programs in Florida provide nutritious meals to seniors throughout the State helping them maintain their health and independence, avoiding unnecessary hospitalizations and/or premature institutionalization; and

WHEREAS, Meals on Wheels programs in Florida provide a powerful socialization opportunity for millions of seniors to help combat loneliness and isolation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA that the month of March, 2021, be designated as March for Meals Month in Indian River County, and the Board encourages all citizens to take time this month to honor our Meals on Wheels programs by the Senior Resource Association, the seniors they serve, and the volunteers who care for them. Our recognition of, and involvement in, the national 2021 March for Meals campaign can enrich our entire community and help combat senior hunger and isolation in America.

Adopted this 9th day of March, 2021.

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

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