

# Proclamation

## CELEBRATING THE 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE OLDER AMERICANS ACT NUTRITION PROGRAM

**Whereas**, fifty years ago, on March 22, 1972, President Richard Nixon signed into law a measure that amended the Older Americans Act of 1965 to include a national nutrition program for seniors 60 years and older; and

**Whereas**, this year, Meals on Wheels programs from across the country are joining together for the March for Meals awareness campaign to celebrate 50 years of 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**, volunteers for Meals on Wheels programs in Indian River County are the backbone of the program and they deliver not only 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; and

**Whereas**, Meals on Wheels programs in Indian River County deserve recognition for the heroic contributions and essential services they have provided to local communities, our State and our Nation amid the COVID-19 pandemic and will continue to provide long after it is over; and

**Whereas**, the senior population is increasing substantially, and action is needed now to support local Meals on Wheels programs through federal, state, and local funding; volunteering; donations; and raising awareness to ensure these vital services can continue to be delivered for another 50 years.

**Now, Therefore, be it Proclaimed by the Board of County Commissioners of Indian River County, Florida** that the Board recognizes March 2022 as a month celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Older Americans Act Nutrition Program and urges 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. Our recognition of, and involvement in, the national celebration can enrich our entire community and help combat senior hunger and isolation in America.

Adopted this 8th day of March, 2022.

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

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Peter D. O'Bryan, Chairman

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Joseph H. Earman, Vice Chairman

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