

DURHAM BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

*Proclamation*

**19<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MARCH FOR MEALS MONTH | 2021**

- 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 and older; and
- WHEREAS,** Meals on Wheels America established the March for Meals campaign in March 2002 to recognize the historic month, the importance of the 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 March for Meals celebrates 19 years of providing 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,** Meals on Wheels Durham in Durham, NC, has served our communities admirably for over 46 years; and
- WHEREAS,** volunteers for Meals on Wheels programs in Durham County are the backbone of the program, and they not only deliver 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 Durham, NC provides nutritious meals to seniors throughout Durham County that help them maintain their health and independence, thereby preventing unnecessary falls, hospitalizations, and/or premature institutionalization; and
- WHEREAS,** Meals on Wheels programs in Durham, NC provide a powerful opportunity for social connection for millions of seniors to help combat the adverse health effects and economic consequences of loneliness and isolation; and
- WHEREAS,** Meals on Wheels programs in Durham, NC deserve recognition for the heroic contributions and essential services they have provided amid the COVID-19 pandemic and will continue to provide to local communities, our State, and our Nation long after it is over.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED I,** Brenda Howerton, Chair of the Durham Board of County Commissioners and on behalf of the Durham Board of County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim March 2021 as the

**“19<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MARCH FOR MEALS MONTH”**

In Durham County, NC and urge every citizen 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 2021 March for Meals can enrich our entire community and help combat senior hunger and isolation in America.

This 8<sup>th</sup> day of March 2021.

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Brenda Howerton, Chair  
Durham Board of County Commissioners

