



PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING MARCH 2023 AS THE 21st ANNUAL 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 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 2023 observance of March for Meals celebrates the 21st year in the county of providing an opportunity to support Meals on Wheels programs that deliver vital and critical services by donating, volunteering, and raising awareness about hunger and isolation; and

WHEREAS, the Meals on Wheels program has served the Charlottesville/Albemarle community admirably for 45 years, serving 325 homebound citizens and delivering 70,620 home-delivered meals in 2022, with the help of its volunteers who are the backbone of the program; and

WHEREAS, Meals on Wheels of Charlottesville/Albemarle provides nutritious meals to homebound citizens throughout the city and county that help them maintain their health and independence, thereby preventing unnecessary falls, hospitalizations and/or premature institutionalization; and providing a powerful opportunity for social connection for homebound residents to help combat the negative health effects and economic consequences of loneliness and isolation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that we, the Albemarle County Board of Supervisors, do hereby recognize March 2023 as the 21st annual March for Meals Month in the county, and urge every resident to take this month to honor Meals on Wheels, the neighbors they serve, and the volunteers who care for them.

Signed this 15th day of March 2023.

Donna Price, Chair
Albemarle Board of County Supervisors