



# CERTIFICATE of RECOGNITION

*By virtue of the authority vested by the Constitution of Virginia in the Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia, there is hereby officially recognized:*

## **MALNUTRITION AWARENESS WEEK**

**WHEREAS**, nutrition is a human right and Social Determinant of Health; and

**WHEREAS**, malnutrition is exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, which has intensified disparities, inequities, and social isolation and is further compounded by food insecurity; and

**WHEREAS**, disease-related malnutrition is a highly prevalent form of malnutrition; and

**WHEREAS**, over 2 million hospital stays involve malnutrition per year, and twenty to thirty percent of adults are at risk or have malnutrition; and

**WHEREAS**, malnutrition leads to more complications, falls, and readmissions and plays a role in cognitive deterioration, decreased functional capacity, and affects quality of life; and

**WHEREAS**, the Commonwealth of Virginia recognizes that screening, assessment, diagnosis, and intervention are key to improving malnutrition in the United States;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Ralph S. Northam, do hereby recognize October 4-8, 2021, as **MALNUTRITION AWARENESS WEEK** in our **COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA**, and I call this observance to the attention of all our citizens.



  
Governor

  
Secretary of the Commonwealth