Malnutrition Awareness Week
September 19 – 23, 2022

Proper nutrition is a clear, direct measure of health, and when a person has inadequate or unbalanced nutrition, he or she is considered medically malnourished. Malnutrition disproportionately impacts vulnerable populations such as hospitalized patients, older adults, homeless individuals, and minorities, and the recent global pandemic has further exacerbated existing disparities, inequalities, and food insecurity. In a prosperous, civilized society, we must do all we can to ensure that all of our people are well cared for and properly nourished. Adequate nutrition is indeed an attainable goal, and the benefits associated therewith are enormous. Proper nutrition promotes a strong, healthy body, which contributes, in turn, to a happier existence and even reduced mortality.

In Texas, we know that it is not our challenges that define us, but rather how we rise above them. Thanks to the tireless work of dedicated medical professionals, support organizations, and state agencies, we can rise above the challenges of malnutrition and forge a better, brighter future for all. To this end, one week in September is annually dedicated to raising awareness of malnutrition and providing resources that can help address it. This concerted effort educates organizations across various professions and disciplines about malnutrition; moreover, the campaign provides resources, methods, and best practices in order to diagnose, treat, and support people affected by malnutrition. Continued collaboration between key stakeholders in the public and private sectors remains imperative if we are to improve awareness of malnutrition, prevent its occurrence, and reduce its harm.

At this time, I commend you on your efforts to raise awareness of malnutrition and to support affected populations and patients. Through these focused efforts, we can minimize the impact of malnutrition, improve all Texans’ health and quality of life, and work toward a day when all people of this state have access to the nourishment they need.

First Lady Cecilia Abbott joins me in wishing you the best.

In testimony whereof, I have signed my name and caused the Seal of the State of Texas to be affixed at the City of Austin, this the 1st day of August, 2022.

Greg Abbott
Governor of Texas