



By His Excellency Ned Lamont, Governor: an
Official Statement

*W*HEREAS, experts agree that nutrition status is a direct measure of health, and that good nutrition can keep people healthy and out of health care institutions; and

*W*HEREAS, inadequate or unbalanced nutrition, known as malnutrition, is prevalent in many groups, including vulnerable populations such as hospitalized patients and minority populations, with older adults having the highest rate of malnutrition compared to other groups; and

*W*HEREAS, illness, injury, and malnutrition can result in the loss of lean body mass, leading to complications that impact good patient health outcomes, including recovery from surgery, illness, or disease; and

*W*HEREAS, nutrition is a human right and Social Determinant of Health, and malnutrition is exacerbated by the global COVID-19 health pandemic, which has intensified disparities, inequities, and social isolation and is further compounded by food insecurity; and

*W*HEREAS, each day, approximately 15,000 hospital patients with malnutrition go undiagnosed; and

*W*HEREAS, malnourished patients have two times longer hospital stays compared to patients with no malnutrition, two times higher hospital costs compared to the average cost of all hospital stays, and three times the mortality rate of mortality of all hospitalized patients; and

*W*HEREAS, twenty to thirty percent of adults in the community are at risk or have malnutrition; and

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

*W*HEREAS, screening, assessment, diagnosis, and intervention are key to improving malnutrition in the United States; now

*T*HEREFORE, I, Ned Lamont, Governor of the State of Connecticut, do hereby officially proclaim the week of September 19th – 23rd, 2022, to be

MALNUTRITION AWARENESS WEEK

in the State of Connecticut.



Ned Lamont

GOVERNOR