COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

PROCLAMATION
BY THE
GOVERNOR

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

WHEREAS, the effects of malnutrition include increased risks for chronic diseases, higher chances of hospitalization, poor overall health, and increased health care costs; and

WHEREAS, more than 1.5 million Pennsylvanians, including over 443,000 children, are food insecure; and

WHEREAS, nutrition status is a direct measure of health, and proper nutrition can keep people healthy and out of health care institutions; and

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

WHEREAS, screening, assessment, diagnosis, and intervention are key to improving malnutrition in the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth is committed to hunger-free communities by providing equitable access to healthy, nutritious food for all Pennsylvanians through various state and local agencies along with supporting partners and charitable suppliers.

THEREFORE, I, Josh Shapiro, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, do hereby proclaim September 18–22, 2023, to be

MALNUTRITION AWARENESS WEEK

to encourage all Pennsylvanians to pursue preventative health practices and early detection efforts, and to seek and support resources available in their communities.

GIVEN under my hand and the Seal of the Governor, at the City of Harrisburg, on this eighteenth day of September two thousand twenty-three, the year of the Commonwealth the two hundred forty-eighth.

Governor Josh Shapiro