

# State of North Carolina

# **ROY COOPER**

**GOVERNOR** 

### IN RECOGNITION OF

# THE 18th ANNUAL MARCH FOR MEALS

2020

## BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

### A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, on March 22, 1972, President Richard Nixon signed a measure that amended the Older Americans Act (OAA) of 1965 and established a national nutrition program for seniors 60 years and older; this act would go on to finance a portion of the funding for Meals on Wheels; and

WHEREAS, Meals on Wheels programs in North Carolina provide nutritious meals to seniors throughout our state that help them maintain their health and independence, thereby preventing unnecessary falls, hospitalizations and/or premature institutionalization; and

WHEREAS, Meals on Wheels America established the March for Meals campaign in March 2002 to recognize the importance of the OAA Nutrition Programs, both congregate and home-delivered, and raise awareness about the escalating problem of senior hunger in America; and

WHEREAS, the 2020 observance of March for Meals celebrates 18 years of providing an opportunity to support Meals on Wheels programs that deliver vital and critical services by donating, volunteering, and raising awareness about senior hunger and isolation; and

WHEREAS, Meals on Wheels programs in North Carolina provide a powerful socialization opportunity for millions of seniors to help combat the negative health effects and economic consequences of loneliness and isolation; and

WHEREAS, volunteers for Meals on Wheels programs in North Carolina are the backbone of the program, delivering nutritious meals to seniors and individuals with disabilities who are at significant risk of hunger and isolation; and

WHEREAS, the State of North Carolina encourages individuals and organizations across our state to recognize the significant contributions made by Meals on Wheels, and commends the organizers, volunteers, and community leaders who have dedicated their time and energy to March for Meals over the past 18 years;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim March 16, 2020, as a day "IN RECOGNITION OF THE 18th ANNUAL MARCH FOR MEALS" in North Carolina, and commend its observance to all citizens.

S WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this ninth day of March in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-fourth.