

# PROCLAMATION

## BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MARION COUNTY, FLORIDA

**WHEREAS**, hunger and poverty are issues of vital concern both nation and statewide; in Marion County, about 11.4% of people experience food insecurity, and many face the impossible choice between food and other basic needs like rent and medical care; and

**WHEREAS**, the members of Second Harvest Food Bank of Central Florida, a member of the Feeding America® nationwide network of food banks, distributed more than 3.9 million meals to individuals in Marion County in 2023, with more than 300,000 meals provided every single day throughout the seven-county service area in Central Florida; and

**WHEREAS**, Marion County is committed to working with Second Harvest Food Bank of Central Florida and local agencies like Interfaith; His Compassion; The Salvation Army; and Brother's Keeper; to name a few; in their efforts to bring awareness and help end hunger in our community; and

**WHEREAS**, the month of September is designated "Hunger Action Month" to bring attention to food insecurity and to enlist the public in the fight to end hunger by donating, fundraising, volunteering, learning about hunger in their community, or advocating for food assistance; and

**WHEREAS**, food banks across the country, including the members of the Second Harvest Food Bank of Central Florida, will host numerous events throughout the month of September to bring awareness and help end hunger in their local community;

**NOW THEREFORE**, the Board of County Commissioners of Marion County, Florida, by virtue of the authority vested in us do hereby proclaim that **September 2024** be known as

### **"Hunger Action Month"**

in Marion County, Florida, and urge all citizens to help "Stock the Shelves" this September to help families, kids, seniors, and the disadvantaged facing hunger.

**DULY PROCLAIMED** this 4<sup>th</sup> day of **September, 2024**.

### BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MARION COUNTY, FLORIDA

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MICHELLE STONE, CHAIR

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KATHY BRYANT, VICE CHAIR

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CARL ZALAK, III, COMMISSIONER

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CRAIG CURRY, COMMISSIONER

**ATTEST:**

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GREGORY C. HARRELL, CLERK

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MATT MCCLAIN, COMMISSIONER