

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, on March 22, 1972, President Richard Nixon signed into law a measure that amended the Older Americans Act of 1965 and established a national nutrition program for seniors 60 years and older; and

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

WHEREAS, the 2019 observance of March for Meals celebrates 17 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 – both congregate and home-delivered, in Alexandria, Virginia have served our communities admirably for more than 40 years; and

WHEREAS, volunteers for Meals on Wheels programs in Alexandria, Virginia, are the backbone of the program and they not only deliver nutritious meals to seniors and individuals with disabilities who are at significant risk of hunger and isolation, but also caring concern and attention to their welfare; and

WHEREAS, Meals on Wheels programs such as Senior Services of Alexandria and the City's Division of Aging and Adult Services in Alexandria, Virginia, provide nutritious meals to seniors throughout Alexandria that help them maintain their health and independence, thereby preventing unnecessary falls, hospitalizations and/or premature institutionalization; and

WHEREAS, Meals on Wheels programs in Alexandria, Virginia, provide a powerful socialization opportunity for millions of seniors to help combat loneliness and isolation; and

WHEREAS, Meals on Wheels programs in Alexandria, Virginia, deserve recognition for the contributions they have made and will continue to make to local communities, our State and our Nation.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JUSTIN M. WILSON, Mayor of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, and on behalf of the Alexandria City Council, do hereby proclaim March, 2019 as the:

“17th ANNUAL MARCH FOR MEALS MONTH”

And urge every citizen to take this month to honor our Meals on Wheels programs, the seniors they serve and the volunteers who care for them. Our recognition of, and involvement in, the national 2019 March for Meals can enrich our entire community and help combat senior hunger and isolation in America.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Alexandria to be affixed this 12th day of March, 2019.

MAYOR JUSTIN M. WILSON

On behalf of the City Council
of Alexandria, Virginia

ATTEST:

Gloria A. Sitton, CMC City Clerk