

PROCLAMATION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

WHEREAS, the Humboldt County Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS) staff strives to ensure CalFresh benefits are accessible to all eligible Humboldt County residents and utilized to the fullest; and

WHEREAS, CalFresh helps provide food security for more than 25,660 Humboldt County residents including more than 7,070 children and 4,360 elderly community members; and

WHEREAS, DHHS and community partners are working hard to make sure our most vulnerable populations have food on their tables and to get these benefits out to eligible community members who are experiencing economic hardship; and

WHEREAS, our local Humboldt County economy benefited from the more than \$52,400,000 in federal CalFresh funds that were spent on food by county residents in 2022; and

WHEREAS, DHHS's Social Services branch staff has relationships with staff at community-based organizations and medical providers who help refer people to the CalFresh program and create an important link to these benefits for people experiencing food insecurity; and

WHEREAS, CalFresh funding pays for the benefit assistance program and nutrition education through Public Health, funding local outreach programs, helping children access free and reduced-cost school meals, supporting local farms through the Market Match farmers' market program and supporting job placement through CalFresh Employment & Training's support to the Helping Humboldt employment empowerment program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors hereby proclaim May 2023 as CalFresh Awareness Month by honoring the work the CalFresh program accomplishes through community agencies and Social Services staff to alleviate food insecurity among Humboldt County residents including individuals, families with children, and elderly and disabled people.

DATED: May 16, 2023

Steve Madrone, Chair

