

**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 to more than 23,500 Humboldt County residents including more than 6,180 children and 5,600 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 during the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, CalFresh has special state programs to further help benefit recipients during the pandemic, including an overall 15% increase to benefit amounts and monthly emergency allotments that allow all households to receive maximum benefits; and

WHEREAS, our local Humboldt County economy benefited from the more than \$51,000,000 in federal CalFresh funds that were spent on food by county residents in 2020; and

WHEREAS, DHHS's Social Services branch staff has relationships with 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 2021 as CalFresh Awareness Month by honoring the work the CalFresh program accomplishes through community agencies and eligibility specialists to alleviate food insecurity among Humboldt County residents including individuals, families with children, and elderly and disabled people.

DATED: May 11, 2021

Virginia Bass, Chair

