

**PROCLAMATION
OF THE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT**



WHEREAS, millions of Americans struggle to afford food each day; and

WHEREAS, the Food Research & Action Center started the “SNAP Challenge” 10 years ago to give individuals an opportunity to experience what life is like for millions of low-income Americans who are enrolled in SNAP, the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of SNAP is to supplement the food budget of income-qualifying individuals, making healthy foods more accessible, but in many cases it can be someone’s entire food budget with other costs of living being so high; and

WHEREAS, in California we have CalFresh (formerly known as food stamps), and in Humboldt County there are currently approximately 18,500 families consisting of approximately 29,000 individuals, including 7,500 children under age 18 and 5,000 adults 60 and older, who are receiving CalFresh benefits; and

WHEREAS, the maximum allotment for an individual is currently \$291 a month, with the average local monthly allotment for an individual being \$187 a month, which is just over \$6 a day; and

WHEREAS, challenge participants can spend a total of \$43.63 for the week and only eat food that is included in that amount, deducting the amount for food that has already been purchased or is given by friends or family; and

WHEREAS, participants should keep track of receipts on food spending and take notes on their experiences throughout the week; and

WHEREAS, since its inception, hundreds, if not thousands of people, have participated in the SNAP Challenge bringing awareness to the challenges low-income Americans experience affording nutritious foods and not going hungry at times; and

WHEREAS, this year a group of Humboldt County residents is organizing a weeklong SNAP Challenge to take place Nov. 1 through 7, which gives participants an opportunity to experience how difficult it is for families who rely on CalFresh benefits to avoid hunger, afford nutritious food and stay healthy on limited resources. Community members interested in participating can get more information by looking up “SNAP Challenge” online.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, that the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors recognizes the week of Nov. 1 through 7, 2023, as Humboldt County SNAP Challenge Week and invites all community residents to participate.

DATED: October 24, 2023

STEVE MADRONE, Chair