

CITY OF LAKEWOOD



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, adults, children, seniors, active duty military and veterans in Pierce County sought assistance in feeding themselves and their families twice as much in 2023 compared to 2019, demonstrating a true hunger crisis in our community; and

WHEREAS, it is important to address the food insecurity endured by the children in Lakewood, as the well-being of our children is an investment in our community's future health, education performance, and economic vitality; and

WHEREAS, local food pantries are currently serving an average of 249,800 visits every month from people struggling with unemployment, underemployment, and other physical and economic challenges; and

WHEREAS, the Emergency Food Network must maintain its capacity to distribute more than 14 million pounds of food to its more than 75 partner food pantries, meal sites, and shelters every year; and

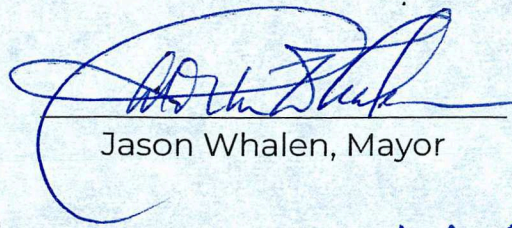
WHEREAS, rising food costs affect Lakewood residents and the local emergency food system and have already resulted in increased visits to the emergency food system.

NOW THEREFORE, the Lakewood City Council do hereby proclaim May 2024 as

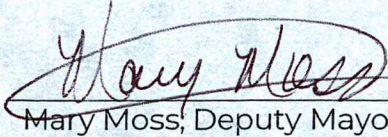
HUNGER AWARENESS MONTH

in the City of Lakewood and encourage all residents to support Hunger Awareness Month and recognize Emergency Food Network and its allies for their outstanding service, leadership, and commitment to providing food for residents in the City of Lakewood and Pierce County.

PROCLAIMED this 6th day of May, 2024.



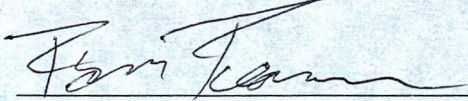
Jason Whalen, Mayor



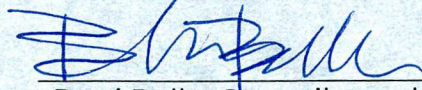
Mary Moss, Deputy Mayor



Michael Brandstetter, Councilmember



Ryan Pearson, Councilmember



Patti Belle, Councilmember



J. Trestin Lauricella, Councilmember



Paul Bocchi, Councilmember