

CITY OF LAKEWOOD



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the number of adults, children, seniors, active military, and veterans in Pierce County seeking food assistance has risen by 130% since 2019, underscoring the growing 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 284,500 visits every month from people struggling with unemployment, underemployment, and other physical and economic challenges; and

WHEREAS, Emergency Food Network aims to distribute 20 million pounds of food this year to its more than 75 partner food pantries, meal sites, and shelters; and

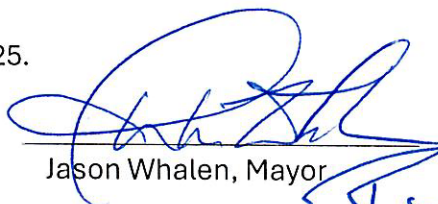
WHEREAS, rising food costs affect Lakewood residents and the local emergency food system and have already resulted in increased visits to the emergency food system; and

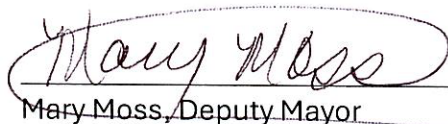
NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council hereby proclaim May 2025 as

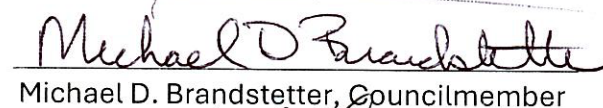
HUNGER AWARENESS MONTH

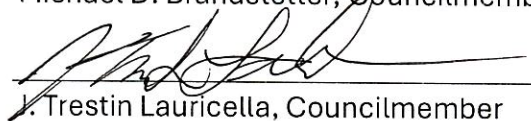
in the City of Lakewood and encourage all residents to support Hunger Awareness Month and recognize Emergency Food Network and its allies for their outstanding service, leadership, and commitment to providing food for residents in the city of Lakewood and Pierce County.

PROCLAIMED this 5th day of May, 2025.

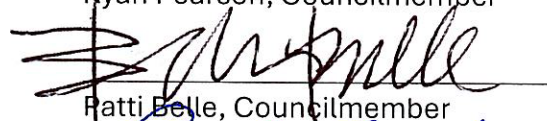

Jason Whalen, Mayor


Mary Moss, Deputy Mayor


Michael D. Brandstetter, Councilmember


J. Trestin Lauricella, Councilmember


Ryan Pearson, Councilmember


Ratti Belle, Councilmember


Paul Bocchi, Councilmember