



Established 1771

CHATHAM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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COUNTY MANAGER

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Resolution of the Chatham County Board of Commissioners Proclaiming March 2023 as “March for Meals” Month

WHEREAS, on March 22, 1972, President Richard Nixon signed into law a measure that amended the Older Americans Act of 1965 to include a national nutrition program for individuals 60 years of age and older; and

WHEREAS, for more than five decades, this landmark law has helped to fund community-based organizations – like Meals on Wheels – and it is still the only federal program designed specifically to meet the nutritional and social needs of older adults; and

WHEREAS, this year, Meals on Wheels programs from across the country are joining together for the March for Meals awareness campaign to celebrate its success and garner the support needed to ensure these critical programs can continue to address food insecurity and malnutrition, combat social isolation, enable independence and improve health for years to come; and

WHEREAS, home-delivered Meals on Wheels programs in Chatham County, conducted through the Chatham County Council on Aging, have served our communities admirably throughout the Council’s 48-plus years of operation and;

WHEREAS, volunteers for the Council on Aging’s Meals on Wheels program are the backbone of the program and they not only deliver nutritious meals to seniors and individuals with disabilities who are at significant risk of hunger and isolation, but also caring concern and attention to their welfare; and

WHEREAS, the Meals on Wheels program in Chatham County provides nutritious meals to seniors throughout the county that help them maintain their health and independence, thereby helping to prevent unnecessary falls, hospitalizations, and premature institutionalization; and

WHEREAS, the Meals on Wheels program in Chatham County deserves recognition for the heroic contributions and essential services they have provided amid the COVID-19 pandemic, inclement weather, and other emergencies; and

WHEREAS, the senior population is increasing substantially in Chatham County, and action is needed now to support local Meals on Wheels programs through federal, state, and local funding; volunteering; donations; and raising awareness to ensure these vital services can continue to be delivered for years to come.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Chatham County Board of Commissioners that March 2023 is proclaimed “March for Meals” Month and calls upon the people of Chatham County to observe the month by supporting the work of Meals on Wheels through the Chatham County Council on Aging as it seeks to maintain the independence of our county’s older adults by keeping them safe and in their own homes for as long as possible.

Adopted, this the 20th day of February 2023.

Karen Howard, Chair
Chatham County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

Lindsay K. Ray, NCMCC, Clerk to the Board
Chatham County Board of Commissioners