

Town of West Springfield

Official Proclamation

WHEREAS, hunger and poverty are issues of vital concern in western Massachusetts where 47% of people struggle with hunger and one in every four children do not know where their next meal will come from; and

WHEREAS, the City of West Springfield of Massachusetts is committed to taking steps to combat hunger in every part of our community and to provide additional resources that those in West Springfield need; and

WHEREAS, the City of West Springfield of Massachusetts is committed to working with The Food Bank of Western Massachusetts, a member of the Feeding America® nationwide network of food banks, in educating people about the role and importance of food banks in addressing hunger and raising awareness of the need to devote more resources and attention to hunger issues; and

WHEREAS, more than 127,900 individuals in western Massachusetts rely on food provided by the members of the Food Bank of Western Massachusetts annually; and

WHEREAS, the coronavirus pandemic has had devastating health and economic impacts across the country and it is projected that thousands more people could face hunger in western Massachusetts in the wake of the pandemic this year; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Food Bank of Western Massachusetts distributed more than ten million meals 2019 through its network of food pantries, soup kitchens, shelters and other community organizations; and

WHEREAS, the month of September has been designated "Hunger Action Month" in order to bring attention to food insecurity in our communities and to engage the public in action – including volunteer shifts, social media shares, and donations – to end hunger one helping at a time; and

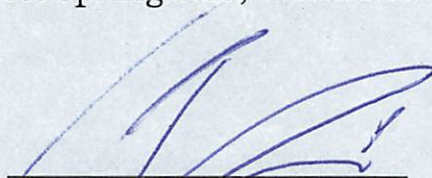
WHEREAS, food banks across the country, including the members of the Food Bank of Western Massachusetts – will host numerous events throughout the month of September to bring awareness and help end hunger in their local community;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, William C. Reichelt, do hereby recognize

September 2022, as

HUNGER ACTION MONTH

in West Springfield, Massachusetts, and I call this observance to the attention of our citizens.



William C. Reichelt
Mayor of The City of
West Springfield

