



# PROCLAMATION

## Period Poverty Awareness Week

May 11-17, 2026

**WHEREAS**, approximately half of the population will have a period every month for decades of their lives and period supplies are a necessary product, each month, for millions of people across the country; and

**WHEREAS**, national surveys and research studies report that one in four menstruating individuals struggle to secure enough period supplies to meet their needs each month due to a lack of income and this lack of period supplies, known as period poverty, can adversely affect the health and well-being of menstruators; and

**WHEREAS**, national surveys also report that one in five women and girls miss work or school due to lacking a sufficient period supplies, exacerbating the vicious cycle of poverty by forcing menstruators to withdraw from daily life, losing pay or missing educational opportunities; and

**WHEREAS**, menstruators struggling with period poverty risk infections by using proxy products not intended for this purpose or not changing products as often as needed; and

**WHEREAS**, the people of Hillsborough recognize that period poverty is a public health issue, and addressing period poverty can enhance economic opportunity for Hillsborough's people and surrounding communities and improved health for women and girls/menstruators, thus ensuring all people have access to the basic necessities required to thrive and reach their full potential; and

**WHEREAS**, Hillsborough is proud to be home to trusted organizations, including Period Power, a program of the Diaper Bank of North Carolina, that recognize the importance of period products in ensuring health and providing economic stability and thus distribute period products through various channels; and

**WHEREAS**, the Hillsborough Board of Commissioners extends its sincere gratitude to the aforementioned period supply banks, their staff, volunteers and donors, for their courageous service during the crisis, and encourage the residents of Hillsborough to donate generously to period supply banks, product drives, and those organizations that collect and distribute period products to those struggling with period poverty, so that the Hillsborough community can thrive and reach their full potential;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Mark Bell, mayor of the Town of Hillsborough, do hereby proclaim May 11 through May 17, 2026, as "Period Poverty Awareness Week" in the Town of Hillsborough.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused this seal of the Town of Hillsborough to be affixed this 27<sup>th</sup> day of April in the year 2026.

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Mark Bell, Mayor  
Town of Hillsborough