PROCLAMATION DECLARING SEPTEMBER 2025 AS NATIONAL HUNGER ACTION MONTH

Whereas United Way of Palm Beach County and the Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners joined forces in 2015, launching a bold, countywide Hunger Relief Plan that continues to address food insecurity and its lasting impact on individuals and families; and

Whereas the Hunger Relief Plan is guided by ten ambitious goals and driven by the collective impact efforts of 183 partner organizations and a dedicated Hunger Relief Advisory Council, using the collective impact model to address hunger systemically across all communities and residents; and

Whereas overall food insecurity decreased from 14.2% in 2015 to 11.5% in 2024, and child hunger declined from 23.6% to 18.1%; and

Whereas United Way of Palm Beach County's Hunger Relief Advisory Council and Palm Beach County have worked in close partnership over the past decade to increase food security through vital programs such as the Afterschool Meals Program, Summer BreakSpot, and the Weekend Backpack Program, ensuring children have access to nutritious meals year-round; and

Whereas the number of Afterschool Meals Program sites increased from 15 in 2015 to 196 in 2024; and

Whereas infrastructure and innovation, including the United Way of Palm Beach County Food Finder Map, the Geographic Pantry Assessment, and a new commercial kitchen and food processing facility at the Palm Beach County Food Bank, have significantly expanded the County's hunger relief capacity and reduced food waste; and

Whereas outreach to rural communities, especially in the Glades, has expanded through initiatives such as the Tri-City Garden Project, healthy corner stores, and strategic advocacy efforts to ensure access to food and resources for all; and

Whereas, while we celebrate ten years of impact and collaboration, Palm Beach County residents continue to face food insecurity, underscoring the importance of sustained programs and initiatives through action, advocacy, and innovation.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that I, Roger Michaud, Mayor of the Town of Lake Park, Florida, do hereby proclaim September 2025, as:

National Hunger Action Month

and proudly honors the 10^{th} anniversary of Palm Beach County's Hunger Relief Plan, expressing our continued commitment to working together to ensure that each child, adult, and family in our community is food secure.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the official seal of the Town of Lake Park to be affixed this 3rd day of September, 2025.

ATTEST:
Vivian Mendez, Town Clerk