

# PROCLAMATION

**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 10 ambitious goals and driven by the collective impact efforts of 183 partner organizations and a dedicated Hunger Relief Advisory Council; 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**, over the past decade, partners have worked closely 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**, 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 10 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**, I, Keith W. Babb, Jr., Mayor of the City of Pahokee, Florida, on behalf of the City Commission and our citizens, do hereby proclaim **September 2025** as **Hunger Action Month**.

**In official recognition whereof, I hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of Pahokee to be affixed this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of September 2025.**

*Keith W. Babb, Jr.*

Mayor Keith W. Babb, Jr.

*Sanquetta Cowan-Williams*

Vice Mayor Sanquetta Cowan-Williams

*Isabelle J. McDonald*

Commissioner Isabelle J. McDonald

*Everett D. McPherson, Sr.*

Commissioner Everett D. McPherson, Sr

*James H. Scott*

Commissioner James H. Scott