

County of Buncombe

Proclamation

MANNA FoodBank Proclamation

WHEREAS, MANNA FoodBank is the central food sourcing and disaster relief organization providing life-sustaining food resources for residents in the 16 western-most counties of North Carolina, including the Qualla Boundary; and

WHEREAS, MANNA began food distribution operations in 1983, and is this year celebrating its 40th Anniversary; and

WHEREAS, MANNA works to empower the communities it serves by involving, educating, and uniting people in the work of ending hunger in Western North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, MANNA is the primary source of food resources for over 250 partner organizations in Western North Carolina, and has distributed a staggering 300 million pounds of food in its 40-year history; and

WHEREAS, MANNA and Buncombe County have partnered for the last decade to provide food and resources to the community through the County's Community Engagement Markets; and

WHEREAS, MANNA provides a free Food Helpline as a source of information for neighbors seeking food resources and meal programs in their community, and to receive assistance in applying for longer-term food benefits; and

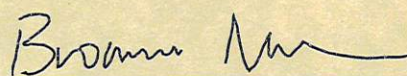
WHEREAS, making weekend food accessible to the 1 in 4 children that will face food insecurity in Western North Carolina is a vital piece of MANNA's work through the distribution of over 122,000 MANNA Packs for Kids in the last fiscal year alone; and

WHEREAS, MANNA holds a commitment to serving marginalized communities, in both urban and rural environments, in ways that value who they are, their lived experiences and their unique barriers to accessing food; and

WHEREAS, the County has supported and will continue to support MANNA through regular food drives where employees and the community alike can contribute; and

WHEREAS, MANNA prioritizes the health and well-being of the neighbors in its service area by advocating at the national, state and local level for those living in and experiencing the effects of poverty.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Brownie Newman, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Chairman of the Buncombe County Board of Commissioners, do hereby proclaim September 5, 2023 as "**MANNA FoodBank Day**" to commemorate and celebrate MANNA FoodBank's 40 years of positive impact on the residents of Western North Carolina.



Brownie Newman, Chairman
Buncombe County Board of Commissioners