

OFFICE OF THE SELECT BOARD

STEPHEN W. DECOURCEY, CHAIR
DIANE M. MAHON, VICE CHAIR
JOHN V. HURD
LENARD T. DIGGINS
ERIC D. HELMUTH



730 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE
TELEPHONE
781-316-3020
781-316-3029 FAX

TOWN OF ARLINGTON
MASSACHUSETTS 02476-4908

PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS:** Hunger and poverty are issues of grave concern in the United States, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and Arlington; and
- WHEREAS:** Due to the persistently high cost of groceries and the end of many COVID-19 policies, overall food insecurity rates persist, with one in three individuals in Massachusetts reporting running out of food or not having enough money to buy food each month.
- WHEREAS:** Inequities in access to food remain prevalent, with rates of food insecurity in the Commonwealth significantly higher than average in Black, Hispanic, American Indian/Alaska Native, and LGBTQ+ households; and
- WHEREAS:** The Town of Arlington recognizes that Arlington EATS, Arlington Council on Aging, Food Link, and Arlington Public Schools work in partnership to address food insecurity in this community; and
- WHEREAS:** Arlington EATS is serving more neighbors than ever; the Market served 452 households each week in the past year, a number that has more than doubled since 2020.
- WHEREAS:** The Arlington Council on Aging (COA) acts as the transportation partner for Arlington EATS and has provided 807 rides to the Market in the past year at no cost to the riders; and
- WHEREAS:** In 2023, Food Link collected 1.4 million pounds of food — the equivalent of 1.2 million meals — and distributed it to 108 social service agencies throughout 46 communities in Greater Boston; and
- WHEREAS:** The Greater Boston Food Bank distributes over 104 million pounds of food a year in Eastern Massachusetts and is a critical resource for its community partners — including Arlington EATS.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Arlington encourages any resident in need of food to call Arlington EATS at (339) 707-6761 or visit arlingtoneats.org; and

RESOLVED, that the Town of Arlington encourages residents to support efforts to alleviate food insecurity by volunteering and donating money or food when they are able; and

RESOLVED, that September 10, 2024 shall be proclaimed as Hunger Action Day in Arlington, and that all residents are encouraged to take cognizance of this event and participate fittingly in its observance.

Sources: Arlington EATS (data for households served is from July 2023 through June 2024), Food Link, the Arlington Council on Aging, and the Greater Boston Food Bank's [2024 Opportunities for Food Equity & Access in Massachusetts Report](#)

_____	SELECT BOARD
_____	OF THE
_____	TOWN
_____	OF
_____	ARLINGTON

A true record.

ATTEST:

By: _____
Board Administrator