

SUBJECT: A PROCLAMATION DECLARING MARCH 2024 AS THE 22ND
ANNUAL MARCH FOR MEALS MONTH

DATE: MARCH 5, 2024

PRESENTED BY: ADAM BLACKMORE, DIRECTOR OF PARKS, RECREATION, &
OPEN SPACE

SUMMARY:

Each March, Meals on Wheels celebrates the historic day in 1972 when a national nutrition program for seniors was added to the Older Americans Act. This legislation supported the rapid growth of the Meals on Wheels network that now collectively serves 2.8 million seniors each year. This year's March for Meals celebration comes at a time when eight out of ten local Meals on Wheels programs are delivering meals to more older adults than they were prior to the pandemic, and operational and food costs are climbing. Coal Creek Meals on Wheels is the local provider of meals on wheels and in 2023 served 11,253 meals to Louisville residents.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None

RECOMMENDATION:

Proclaim March 2024 as March for Meals.

ATTACHMENT(S):

1. March for Meals Month Proclamation, March 2024



**A PROCLAMATION DECLARING MARCH 2024 AS THE
22nd ANNUAL MARCH FOR MEALS MONTH**

WHEREAS, this year, Meals on Wheels programs from across the country are joining together for the March for Meals awareness campaign to celebrate its success and garner the support needed to ensure these critical programs can continue; and

WHEREAS, Coal Creek Meals on Wheels has served Erie, Lafayette, Louisville, and Superior for over 50 years, delivering more than just a meal seniors, individuals with disabilities, and anyone in need who is at a significant risk of hunger and isolation; and

WHEREAS Coal Creek Meals on Wheels works to address food insecurity and malnutrition, combat social isolation, enable independence, and improve health for years to come; and

WHEREAS, Coal Creek Meals on Wheels will serve their one millionth meal in 2024; and

WHEREAS, Coal Creek Meals on Wheels provides a powerful opportunity for social connection for hundreds of seniors to help combat the negative health effects and economic consequences of loneliness and isolation; and

WHEREAS, the senior population is increasing substantially, and action is needed to raise awareness to ensure these vital services can continue to be delivered for years to come; and

WHEREAS, Coal Creek Meals on Wheels continues to serve anyone in need of a nutritious meal, regardless of their age, income, socioeconomic status, or other factors.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Louisville City Council does hereby proclaim March 2024 as a month celebrating Coal Creek Meals on Wheels and urges every community member to take this month to honor the programs, the individuals they serve, and the volunteers who care for them. Our recognition of, and involvement in, the national March for Meals celebration can enrich our entire community and help combat hunger and isolation.

DATED this 5th day of March, 2024

Christopher M. Leh, Mayor

ATTEST:

Meredyth Muth, City Clerk