

STATE OF ARKANSAS
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: According to a recent report, 518,960 people (17.3 percent) in Arkansas live without a reliable source of food. One in four Arkansas children are considered food insecure, and 9 percent of seniors are threatened by hunger; and

WHEREAS: Despite remarkable progress in providing nutritious food to Arkansas's children where they live, learn, and play through U.S. Department of Agriculture child nutrition programs, Arkansas still has one of the highest percentages of childhood hunger in the nation at 23.6 percent; and

WHEREAS: One in 10 Arkansans receive food assistance through the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), with more than 76 percent in families with children and more than 43 percent in working families; and

WHEREAS: September has been designated Hunger Action Month, and hunger relief providers and advocates across the state are committed to ending hunger and empowering Arkansans with nutrition education and skills to increase their ability to provide nutritious food on a budget; and

WHEREAS: No child, senior citizen, man, or woman should be faced with a lack of food. Developmental and cognitive deficits, educational deficits, recurring illnesses in child and senior populations, lack of productivity, and negative long-term social and economic consequences are among the damaging results of food insecurity;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ASA HUTCHINSON, Governor of the State of Arkansas, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the laws of the State of Arkansas, do hereby proclaim September 2019, as

ARKANSAS HUNGER ACTION MONTH

across the State, and I encourage my fellow citizens to promote awareness about hunger and to unite together in the fight against hunger.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 12th day of August, in the year of our Lord 2019.




Asa Hutchinson, Governor

Attest


John Thurston, Secretary Of State