

Office of the Mayor

Proclamation

WHEREAS hunger and food insecurity are a reality for far too many of our neighbors; and

WHEREAS those who are food insecure are without reliable access to adequate amount of affordable, nutritious food. Food insecurity can affect anyone, whether they are recently unemployed, underemployed, or supporting a large family; and

WHEREAS food insecurity is a symptom of broader challenges, such as unemployment, disability, retirement or unforeseen financial challenges; and

WHEREAS, those who do not have their basic needs met are further hampered in their path toward self-sufficiency; and

WHEREAS the ongoing health crisis has increased food insecurity amongst individuals and families throughout Bergen County and across the country; and

WHEREAS in 2020, it was estimated that the County of Bergen experienced a 71% increase in food insecurity, thus overwhelming many local food pantries in short supply; and

WHEREAS there are residents in every municipality in Bergen County who receive SNAP benefits, illustrating that this is an issue impacting residents all across Bergen County; and

WHEREAS the economic coattails of the pandemic are long, and despite levels of “reopening”, tremendous need still exists within our community; and

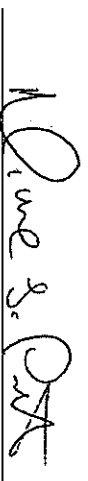
WHEREAS the Bergen County Food Security Task Force has been established to support food pantries in Bergen County by increasing the supply of healthy food options, connecting those in need to vital services, and investing in long term infrastructure to build a more resilient pantry network to ensure no one in Bergen County goes hungry; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Mayor Michael J. Putrino hereby proclaims the month of September 2021 as

HUNGER ACTION MONTH

in the Borough of New Milford, New Jersey, and encourages all New Milford residents to support their local food pantries.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Borough is committed to ending hunger in the community and will spread awareness and increase engagement to solve this problem.



Mayor Michael J. Putrino
September 13, 2021