

# Proclamation

*Office of the Mayor | City of Farmers Branch*

**WHEREAS** on March 22, 1972, President Nixon signed into law a measure that amended the Older Americans Act of 1965 to include a national public-private nutrition program for individuals 60 years and older; and,

**WHEREAS** for over five decades, this landmark law has supported our nation's seniors and helped to fund community-based organizations – like Meals on Wheels – and is still the only federal program designed specifically to meet the nutritional and social needs of older adults; and,

**WHEREAS** Meals on Wheels programs in Texas provide nutritious meals, both congregate and home-delivered, to seniors throughout Farmers Branch that help them maintain their health and independence, thereby helping to prevent unnecessary falls and hospitalizations and provide necessary connections. Meals on Wheels programs have served our communities admirably for 54 years; and,

**WHEREAS** volunteers are the backbone of Meals on Wheels programs delivering nutritious meals to seniors and individuals with disabilities who are at significant risk of hunger and isolation, with caring concern and attention to their welfare; and,

**WHEREAS** Meals on Wheels programs deserve recognition for the heroic contributions and essential services they provide amid times of economic hardship, natural disasters, and other emergencies; and,

**WHEREAS** nearly 14 million seniors are still threatened by or experience hunger, 56% of seniors are lonely, and 1 in 3 Meals on Wheels programs has a waitlist with seniors waiting on average four months for vital meals; and,

**WHEREAS** Meals on Wheels programs from across the country are joining together for the End the Wait campaign this March and beyond to celebrate their collective success and to generate the support needed to ensure these critical programs can continue to address food insecurity and malnutrition, combat social isolation and loneliness, enable independence and improve health outcomes.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Terry Lynne, Mayor of the Farmers Branch City Council, do hereby proclaim March 2026 as a month celebrating senior nutrition programs and urge every community member to take this month to honor our senior nutrition programs, the individuals they serve, and the volunteers who care for them. We hereby recognize the Older Americans Act Nutrition Program and Meals on Wheels programs for their heroic efforts to End the Wait and help combat senior hunger and isolation in America.

*Given this 17<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2026.*

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Terry Lynne, Mayor