



March for Meals Month

WHEREAS, in March 1972 the Older Americans Act of 1965 was amended to establish a national nutrition program for seniors 60 years and older; and

WHEREAS, Meals on Wheels America established the March for Meals campaign in March 2002 to recognize this historic amendment and the importance of the Older Americans Act Nutrition Program and raise awareness about the escalating problem of senior hunger in America; and

WHEREAS, the 2017 observance of March for Meals Month provides an opportunity to support Meals on Wheels programs that provide nutritious meals and companionship, through volunteers and donations; and

WHEREAS, volunteers for Meals on Wheels are the backbone of the program and they deliver nutritious meals to seniors and individuals with disabilities, and also help seniors combat loneliness and maintain their health and independence, thereby delaying or preventing hospitalization or premature institutional care; and

WHEREAS, in Hawai'i multiple agencies provide Meals on Wheels services, including the Lanakila Meals on Wheels program, which continues to provide home-delivered meals to Oʻahu communities for more than 46 years;

THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor, and I, SHAN S. TSUTSUI, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim March 2017 as

"MARCH FOR MEALS MONTH"

and urge the citizens of the Aloha State to take this opportunity to honor our Meals on Wheels programs, the seniors they serve and the volunteers who care for them.

DONE at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, on this tenth day of March 2017.

Governor, State of Hawai'i

SHAN S. TSUTSUI

Lt. Governor, State of Hawai'i