

Proclamation

WHEREAS, Meals on Wheels programs across America deliver vital services to seniors and raise awareness about senior hunger and isolation; and

WHEREAS, Hawai'i has one of the fastest growing senior populations and the longest life expectancy in the nation; and

WHEREAS, the Lanakila Meals on Wheels program in the State of Hawai'i has served our communities on O'ahu for more than 50 years; and

WHEREAS, Lanakila Meals on Wheels help our homebound kūpuna to maintain their independence and improve their health and quality of life; and

WHEREAS, volunteers for Lanakila Meals on Wheels are at the heart of the program, delivering nutritious meals along with care and attention to our kūpuna who are at significant risk of hunger and isolation; and

WHEREAS, Lanakila Meals on Wheels has worked diligently to preserve our kūpuna's continued safe access to healthy food during the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, Lanakila Meals on Wheels provides valuable socialization opportunities through a digital gathering space for our kūpuna to help combat loneliness and remain connected;

THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor of the **State of Hawai'i,** do hereby proclaim March 2021 as

"MARCH FOR MEALS MONTH"

in Hawai'i and ask the people of the Aloha State to join me in raising awareness of kūpuna hunger in our communities; show support for our kūpuna and the programs that service them; and recognize Lanakila Meals on Wheels and the volunteers for their aloha.

Done at the State Capitol in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this twenty-fourth day of February 2021.

Governor, State of Hawai'i