

**RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING DECEMBER 2021 AS
CAPITAL REGION FOOD PROGRAM MONTH**

In the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty one

WHEREAS, the Capital Region Food Program is an all-volunteer, non-profit organization established in 1974 because of the grave problem of hunger in the Greater Concord area; and

WHEREAS, the Capital Region Food Program marks its forty-eighth consecutive year in providing food for the hungry through its Holiday Food Basket Project; and

WHEREAS, refinements in the project are a perpetual undertaking; originally in 1974 the baskets provided enough food for the Christmas holidays alone, but since then, dietary restrictions and infant needs are now taken into consideration, as are storage and refrigeration restrictions, and the baskets now sustain recipients for several days to up to three weeks; and

WHEREAS, the program has expanded operations to include year-round distribution to area food pantries and soup kitchens supporting their great work, which is accomplished by purchasing and distributing, at no cost to the participating agencies, enough food to provide over 5,900 meals per month; and

WHEREAS, our community, state, and country are still experiencing the impact of COVID-19 on food insecurity and the Capital Region Food Program has remained agile and continues to adjust quickly to assist through its Year-Round Distribution Project; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 has caused the CRFP to reengineer its Holiday Food Basket Project. The Capital Region Food Program has continuously adhered to and aligned with its values, which include collaboration, cooperation, responsibility, mindfulness, safety, and community consideration. In keeping with these values, the 2021 Holiday Food Basket Project continues to take proactive steps to maximize safety and helping those in need, while minimizing the risk of infection and contagion; but still accomplishing its mission, assisting individuals and families in need; and

WHEREAS, the impact of this all volunteer organization, community-wide effort, has resulted in over 3400 tons of food having been distributed to the food insecure in Concord and surrounding 17 communities over the past 46 years with items purchased valued in excess of \$3,300,000. In addition, CRFP has redistributed donated food items with a value estimated at \$1,675,000; the combined value of purchased and donated food exceeds \$4,975,000; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the month of December be designated Capital Region Food Program Month in the City of Concord; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that our community be encouraged to participate, contribute and support the Capital Region Food Program now and throughout the year.