

City of Vancouver, Washington

Proclamation

- WHEREAS, summer is the hungriest time of year for many children when families struggle to make up for lost school meals and food insecurity tends to increase; and
- WHEREAS, 1 in 6 kids in Washington state are food insecure, meaning their families struggle to provide regular access to adequate food; and
- WHEREAS, over 700,000 students in Washington state are eligible for free and reduced-price school meals, yet most of these students do not access summer meals sites in their community; and
- WHEREAS, low-income families spend an additional \$300 per month in the summer months to provide food for themselves and their children; and
- WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated food insecurity, particularly among communities of color and households with children, the effects of which are still being felt by families; and
- WHEREAS, children who are food insecure are more likely to miss school, perform poorly academically, experience social, emotional, and mental health challenges, forgo healthcare, and develop chronic disease; and
- WHEREAS, the SUN Bucks (Summer-EBT) program provides eligible low-income families with extra dollars for groceries when school is out, which reduces childhood hunger, increases access to nutritious and culturally relevant meals, helps offset food costs for families, and increases spending within the community, and is most impactful for families when paired with Free Summer Meals; and
- WHEREAS, by increasing awareness about the Summer Meal and SUN Bucks programs through outreach in the community and investing in summer programming to attract more kids to meal sites, Washington can increase access to summer meals programs and resources to ensure that no child goes hungry this summer.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Anne McEnery-Ogle, Mayor of Vancouver, Washington, do hereby proclaim the week of July 8th-12th as:

“ Summer Meals Week ”

in the City of Vancouver and call upon the people of Vancouver to honor this observance with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and cause the seal of the City of Vancouver to be affixed this 3rd day of June 2024.

Anne McEnery-Ogle
ANNE McENERY-OGLE, MAYOR