**MARCH FOR MEALS**

# PROCLAMATION

# City of Lake Worth, Texas

 **Whereas,** on March 22, 1972, President Richard Nixon signed into law a measure that amended the Older Americans Act of 1965 and established a national nutrition program for seniors 60 years and older; and

**Whereas,** the observance of the March for Meals campaign provides an opportunity to support Meals On Wheels programs that deliver vital and critical services by donating, volunteering, and raising awareness about senior hunger and isolation; and

**WHEREAS,** for the past 42 years, the citizens of Tarrant County have benefited from the delivery of nearly 18 million meals to our homebound elderly and disabled neighbors; and

**WHEREAS ,** Meals On Wheels case managers make over 14,000 home visits annually to act as advocates for clients, resulting in improvement in the lives of the homebound citizens of Tarrant County with continued personal independence; and

**WHEREAS,** this organization has a volunteer force of over 5,000 caring individuals who donate their time, vehicles, gasoline, and energy to deliver nearly 1 million fresh, nutritious meals annually to Tarrant County residents; and

**Whereas,** volunteer drivers are the backbone of the Meals On Wheels Home-delivered Meals program, not only delivering nutritious meals to homebound seniors and individuals with disabilities, but also providing caring concern and attention to their welfare; and

**Whereas,** Meals On Wheels provides nutritious meals and a powerful socialization opportunity for seniors to help combat loneliness and isolation, and helps them maintain their health and independence, and avoid unnecessary hospitalizations or premature institutionalization.

 **NOW THEREFORE, I, WALTER BOWEN, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF LAKE WORTH, TEXAS** do hereby proclaim March 2015 as

***“MARCH FOR MEALS MONTH”.***

I urge every citizen to take time this month to honor our Meals On Wheels programs, the seniors they serve, and the volunteers who care for them. Our recognition of, and involvement in, the national 2015 March for Meals campaign can enrich our entire community and help combat senior hunger and isolation in America.

 **IN WITNESS WHEREOF,** I have hereunto set my hand this 9th day of March 2015.

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 Mayor Walter Bowen