



Proclamation No. 25-1359
Recognizing and Responding to Food Insecurity in the City and County of Denver

WHEREAS, food is a basic human need and right, essential to the health, well-being, and prosperity of all residents; and

WHEREAS, an estimated 1 in 6 Denver residents struggle with food insecurity, lacking consistent access to sufficient, culturally-relevant, and nutritious food; and

WHEREAS, food insecurity in the City and County of Denver and across the U.S. has been exacerbated by rising costs of living, shifts in federal supports, systemic inequities, and limited access to affordable, healthy food in parts of the county; and

WHEREAS, the impacts of food insecurity are not experienced equally, disproportionately affecting low-income households, those who are unemployed, multiracial and ethnic communities, households with children, those who identify as LGBTQIA+, and people with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, Denver is home to a wide array of food assistance providers, community-based organizations, public agencies, and local food producers who are working tirelessly to reduce hunger and increase access to healthy, culturally relevant, and locally grown food; and

WHEREAS, the Southwest Food Coalition, a network of community residents, schools, and community-based organizations in Southwest Denver, has brought together diverse voices to collectively address food insecurity by coordinating resources, building trust, and advancing systems change that strengthen neighborhood-based solutions to hunger; and

WHEREAS, local food pantries, WIC clinics, school nutrition programs, farmers markets, SNAP enrollment sites, and mutual aid groups report increasing demand and greater complexity in meeting the needs of the communities they serve; and

WHEREAS, Denver Department of Public Health and Environment, Denver Department of Human Services, the Office of Children's Affairs, Denver Human Rights & Community Partnerships and community partners continue to lead and collaborate to support Denver's social safety net, so households don't have to decide between food, rent, medical care, transportation, and other basic needs.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE DENVER CITY COUNCIL:

Section 1. That the Denver City Council hereby proclaims September 2025 as Hunger Action Month in the City and County of Denver and calls upon all residents, organizations, and policymakers to support a more just, resilient, and equitable food system for all so that no one goes hungry.

Section 2. That the Clerk and Recorder of the City and County of Denver shall affix the seal of the City and County of Denver to this proclamation and that a copy be transmitted to the Southwest Food Coalition, Denver Department of Public Health & Environment, Denver Department of Human Services, Denver Office of Children's Affairs and Denver Human Rights & Community Partnerships.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL SEPTEMBER 15, 2025

PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

