DENVER CITY COUNCIL

Proclamation

Proclamation No. 25-0834
Recognizing Healthy Food for Denver's Kids Halfway Celebration

WHEREAS, Denver community members came together 7 years ago to prioritize the health and well-being of our youth; and

WHEREAS, in 2018, the Healthy Food for Denver's Kids (HFDK) ballot initiative was passed by Denver voters to fund healthy food access and food-based education for children and youth; and Whereas, the Denver Department of Public Health & Environment has administered the program since 2019; and

WHEREAS, the funds from the sales and use tax began collection on January 1, 2019, through December 31, 2028, and must be fully distributed by December 31, 2029; and

WHEREAS, 2025 marks the halfway point for the distribution of these funds; and

WHEREAS, over $85 million has already been awarded to over 100 organizations, including nonprofits, schools, and city agencies, to feed and educate kids; and

WHEREAS, Healthy Food for Denver's Kids has reached over 149,000 families, providing critical support to youth and their households with fresh, nutritious, and culturally meaningful food resources; and

WHEREAS, more than 40 million healthy and culturally relevant meals and snacks have been served to Denver's youth and their families through HFDK-funded programs; and

WHEREAS, Healthy Food for Denver's Kids supports food justice, nutrition education, youth engagement, and community-driven solutions to hunger, empowering Denver's young people to thrive physically, mentally, and academically; and

WHEREAS, programs funded by HFDK have been delivered in 33 different languages, reflecting the diversity and cultural richness of our city and ensuring inclusive access for all communities; and

WHEREAS, the City and County of Denver is proud to recognize and celebrate the collaborative efforts of public servants, community organizations, educators, food justice advocates, and youth leaders who have contributed to the success of this initiative; and

WHEREAS, we encourage all residents to support and uplift this ongoing work to ensure every child in our city has access to the nourishment, education, and community they need to grow, learn, and lead.

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

Section 1. That the Denver City Council hereby recognizes and honors the work of the Healthy Food for Denver's Kids program.

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 Karin McGowan, executive director of the Denver Department of Public Health & Environment, as well as Melinda Day and Linh Tran, co-chairs of the Healthy Food for Denver's Kids Commission.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL June 2, 2025

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PRESIDENT