

Proclamation

WHEREAS, childhood hunger is a problem that affects many communities impacting 584,000 children; and

WHEREAS, forty-four percent of Colorado households with children struggle to regularly access nutritious food; and

WHEREAS, from 2015-2020 an average of 21.1 million kids and teens received free or reduced price lunches during the school year, through the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs; and

WHEREAS, according to the Colorado Department of Education 37.2% of Colorado children were eligible for free or reduced lunches during the 2021-2022 school year; and

WHEREAS, during the summer, when schools are closed, many kids and teens relying on such meals do not receive adequate nutrition; and

WHEREAS, the Summer Food Service Program helps kids and teens receive nutritious meals at no cost so they are ready to learn when they return to school in the fall; and

WHEREAS, children living in food-insecure homes are more likely to suffer from health problems and are less likely to reach their academic potential; and

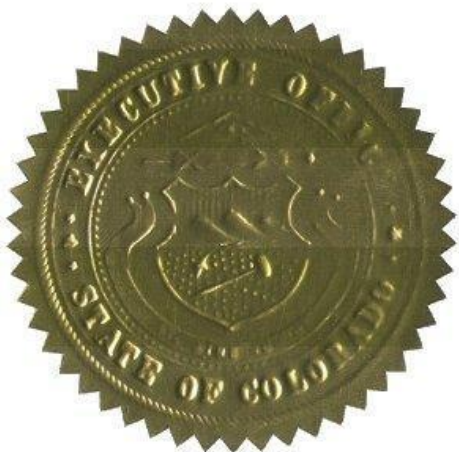
WHEREAS, the State of Colorado strives to ensure all kids and teens in Colorado have enough nutritious food to eat year-round;

THEREFORE, I, Jared Polis, Governor of the State of Colorado, do hereby proclaim July 2022 as

SUMMER MEALS FOR KIDS AND TEENS AWARENESS MONTH

in the State of Colorado.

*GIVEN under my hand and the
Executive Seal of the State of
Colorado, this first day of July, 2022*



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jared Polis".

*Jared Polis
Governor*