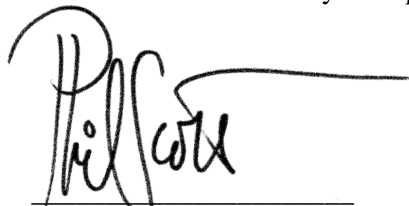


State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation

- WHEREAS,** experts agree that nutrition status is a direct measure of patient health and that good nutrition can keep people healthy and out of healthcare institutions, thus reducing healthcare costs which can be up to \$51.3 billion annually for hospital stays involving malnutrition; and
- WHEREAS,** inadequate or unbalanced nutrition, known as malnutrition, is particularly prevalent in vulnerable populations, such as hospitalized patients, older adults, and minority populations. These populations statistically shoulder the highest incidences of the most severe chronic illnesses such as diabetes, kidney disease, cancer, and cardiovascular disease that are impacted by nutrition; and
- WHEREAS,** nutrition is a human right and social determinant of health and malnutrition is exacerbated by the global COVID-19 health pandemic that has intensified disparities, inequities and social isolation and is further compounded by food insecurity; and
- WHEREAS,** despite the recognized link between good nutrition and good health, nutrition screening and interventions have not been systematically incorporated across the continuum of care; and
- WHEREAS,** access to therapeutic nutrition is essential to restoring lean body mass, resolving malnutrition challenges, improving clinical outcomes, reducing health care costs, and promoting good health; and
- WHEREAS,** Hunger Free Vermont, Vermont Foodbank, Bi-State Primary Care Association, Vermont Health Care Association, Vermont Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living, Age Well, Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging, Northeast Kingdom Council on Aging, Central Vermont Council on Aging, Senior Solutions, and other organizations, agencies, individuals, and programs seek every day to reduce and prevent malnutrition.
- NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Philip B. Scott, Governor, hereby proclaim September 18th through 22nd, 2023, as


MALNUTRITION AWARENESS WEEK
in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of
Vermont on this 18th day of September, A.D. 2023.



Philip B. Scott
Governor




Brittney J. Wilson
Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs