RESOLUTION

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

MARIN COUNTY

PROCLAIMING

FOOD DAY IN MARIN COUNTY

OCTOBER 24, 2015

WHEREAS, Community Food Security applies a systems approach to address the root causes of hunger and means that all community residents are able to obtain a safe, culturally acceptable, nutritionally adequate diet through a sustainable food system that maximizes community self-reliance; and

WHEREAS, the Marin Food Policy Council, first established in 1994, provides a framework for action to address Community Food Security; and

WHEREAS, Marin County’s commitment to Healthy Eating and Active Living (HEAL) is an intentional equity strategy to prevent chronic diseases caused in part by food insecurity; and

WHEREAS, although Marin County consistently ranks among the healthiest counties in the country, many residents suffer from persistent health inequities, including diet related diseases; and

WHEREAS, one in five Marin residents are at risk of hunger Marin County recognizes that hunger, food insecurity, and poor nutrition are pressing health issues that require immediate action; and

WHEREAS, the single most effective strategy to provide immediate relief from food insecurity is to link residents to federally funded nutrition programs including CalFresh, California’s Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Women Infants and Children (WIC), and School Meal Programs; and

WHEREAS, Marin County consistently ranks as one of the poorest performing counties in enrolling eligible people in CalFresh (ranking 55 out of 58); and

WHEREAS, many youth, seniors, and low-income residents lack adequate transportation to access healthy and affordable food; and

WHEREAS, the Marin County Nutrition Wellness Program’s Communities of Excellence in Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Obesity Prevention (C3) assessments found that only 11% of stores in the Canal and 0% of stores in Marin City met “Neighborhood Food Store Quality” standards, indicating whether local stores were safely accessible to neighborhood residents and offered healthy, affordable foods; and

WHEREAS, small-scale, neighborhood based food production and urban agriculture including community and school gardens increase access to healthy and local food, expand self-sufficiency, and foster resilient communities; and

WHEREAS, food recovery and gleaning are important strategies for providing healthy and affordable food while reducing the adverse consequences of food waste on the environment; and

WHEREAS, the Marin County Board of Supervisors supports equitable access to healthy and local food for all communities in Marin; and

WHEREAS, the Marin County Board of Supervisors joins leaders across the United States in declaring October 24, 2015 as Food Day in Marin County, and bringing communities together to celebrate real food and advocate for improved food policies; and

WHEREAS, the Marin County Board of Supervisors encourages Health and Human Services, UC Cooperative Extension, and the Marin Food Policy Council to continue collaboration with other appropriate county and city departments and community partner agencies to explore the feasibility of the policy strategies outlined in the Marin Food Policy Council’s Preliminary Report on Equitable Access to Healthy and Local Food in Marin County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Marin hereby proclaims October 14 – November 23, 2015, as “Food Day in Marin County.”

PASSED AND ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Marin held on this 13th day of October 2015.

KATE RICE — SUPERVISOR, DISTRICT 2 — PRESIDENT

KATHRYN SEARS — SUPERVISOR, DISTRICT 3

STEVE KINSEY — SUPERVISOR, DISTRICT 4