

State of North Carolina

JOSH STEIN
GOVERNOR

MALNUTRITION AWARENESS WEEK

2025

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, experts agree that nutrition status is a direct measure of health and that good nutrition can help keep people healthy and out of health care institutions; and

WHEREAS, inadequate or unbalanced nutrition, known as malnutrition, is prevalent among vulnerable populations such as hospitalized patients and minority populations, with older adults having the highest rate of malnutrition compared to other age groups; and

WHEREAS, malnutrition can result in the loss of lean body mass, leading to complications that worsen health outcomes, including slower recovery from surgery, illness, or disease; and

WHEREAS, disease-related malnutrition is a highly prevalent form of malnutrition; and up to 50 percent of hospitalized adult patients experience malnutrition and up to 27 percent of hospitalized pediatric patients experience malnutrition; and

WHEREAS, malnourished patients endure hospital stays twice as long as the stays of patients with no malnutrition; and malnourished patients' 30-day hospital readmission rate is 2.2 times higher than the rate for patients without malnutrition; and

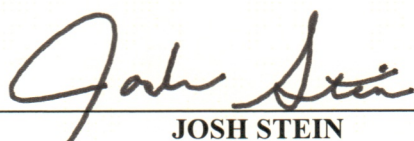
WHEREAS, malnutrition leads to more complications, falls, and hospital readmissions, plays a role in cognitive decline and decreased functional capacity, affects the person's quality of life, and increases the mortality rate;

WHEREAS, screening, assessment, diagnosis, and interventions such as nutrition counseling, oral nutrition supplements, fortified foods, and enteral or parenteral nutrition, as well as home-delivered and congregate meals, are key to improving the lives of those suffering from malnutrition throughout the nation and in North Carolina;

WHEREAS, federal nutrition programs like the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Seniors Farmers Market Nutrition Program, and school meals are effective programs that reduce food insecurity and improve dietary outcomes for children and older adults alike;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOSH STEIN, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim September 8 – 12, 2025, as “**MALNUTRITION AWARENESS WEEK**” in North Carolina and commend its observance to all citizens.




JOSH STEIN

Governor

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this third day of August in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty-fifth and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-ninth.