



Proclamation

From the Governor of the State of Maryland

MALNUTRITION AWARENESS WEEK
SEPTEMBER 14 - 18, 2026

- WHEREAS,** Experts agree that nutrition status is a direct measure of health and that good nutrition can keep people healthy and out of healthcare institutions; and
- WHEREAS,** Inadequate or unbalanced nutrition, known as malnutrition, is prevalent, including within vulnerable populations such as hospitalized patients and minority communities, with older adults having the highest rate of malnutrition compared to other groups; and
- WHEREAS,** Illness, injury, and malnutrition can result in the loss of lean body mass, leading to complications that negatively impact patient health outcomes, including recovery from surgery, illness, or disease; and
- WHEREAS,** Nutrition is a social determinant of health, and malnutrition is intensified by disparities, inequities, social isolation, and food insecurity; and
- WHEREAS,** The State of Maryland continues to make record investments into ending child hunger through Maryland SUN Bucks, which distributed \$75 million in direct benefits to feed more than 630,000 students in the summer of 2025 – the largest investment in combating childhood hunger during the summer months in state history; and
- WHEREAS,** Malnutrition is a public health issue; screening, early detection, assessment, diagnosis, and intervention are key to addressing malnutrition and saving lives; and
- WHEREAS,** The State of Maryland has established the Longevity Ready Maryland multisector plan on aging to optimize health and wellness by breaking down structural barriers to food benefits, supporting vulnerable older adults facing nutrition disparities, and integrating a systemic “Food is Medicine” approach into our broader healthcare infrastructure; and
- WHEREAS,** During Malnutrition Awareness Week, the State of Maryland joins individuals, healthcare providers, caregivers, advocates, and partners across the state and around the country to raise awareness and improve outcomes for those affected by malnutrition.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WES MOORE, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim SEPTEMBER 14 - 18, 2026, as MALNUTRITION AWARENESS WEEK in Maryland, and do commend this observation to all of our citizens.

Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland,
this 14th day of September
Two Thousand and twenty-six



[Signature]
Governor
[Signature]
Lt. Governor
[Signature]
Secretary of State