

RESOLUTION

NO. R-21-126

CITY HALL: April 8, 2021

BY: COUNCILMEMBER GISLESON PALMER, BANKS, NGUYEN, MORENO, GIARRUSSO, BROSETT AND GLAPION

WHEREAS, Food insecurity and poor nutrition have negative impacts on health outcomes, putting individuals at higher risk for complications with COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, The American Hospital Association has found that “Food insecurity is a social determinant of health that should be accounted for in any population health strategy;” and

WHEREAS, The United Nations World Food Program estimates that globally the number of individuals experiencing food insecurity has doubled from 135 million to 265 million; and

WHEREAS, Feeding America, a national food bank network of more than 200 local providers, estimates that an additional 17 million people in the United States could become food insecure during the COVID-19 pandemic, bringing the total to 54 million people, including 18 million children,

WHEREAS, According to US Department of Agriculture data, Black and Hispanic experience food insecurity at least twice the rate of white families; and

WHEREAS, Feeding America reports that food banks nationally distributed 42% more food during Q4 of 2020 than they did in 2019; and

WHEREAS, Second Harvest Food Bank of Southeast Louisiana has led the fight against hunger by providing food access, advocacy, education, disaster response and support to more than 700 community partners and programs across 23 parishes, and distributes the equivalent of more than 32 million meals to more than 210,000 people a year; and

WHEREAS, During the COVID-19 Pandemic Second Harvest increased meal production in their New Orleans Community Kitchen, going from 1,000 prepared meals per day to 10,000 per day, serving over 100,000 families in the New Orleans area; and

WHEREAS, Second Harvest served as a committed partner to New Orleans City Council efforts to establish neighborhood based food pantries, delivering millions of pounds of food and tens of thousands of meals to communities throughout the city; **NOW THEREFORE**

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW ORLEANS, That the City Council recognizes and applauds the tremendous efforts of Second Harvest Food Bank

throughout the COVID-19 pandemic to keep its doors open and food flowing to those most in need; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Council stands ready to assist Second Harvest in any way necessary moving forward, including fundraising and volunteer support, to ensure that its mission can continue while recovery from the pandemic is still underway; and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a certified copy of this resolution be sent by the Clerk of Council to Natalie Jayroe, President and CEO of Second Harvest Food Bank of Greater New Orleans.

THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION WAS READ IN FULL, THE ROLL WAS CALLED ON THE ADOPTION THEREOF, AND RESULTED AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS:

NAYS:

ABSENT:

AND THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.