

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, nutrition-related conditions such as heart disease, diabetes and high blood pressure significantly decrease Americans' lifespans and quality of life, leading to millions of deaths per year and millions of sick, disabled and cognitively impaired individuals; and,

WHEREAS, food insecurity and lack of access to healthy foods contribute to the development of various nutrition-related illnesses, and children facing hunger are more likely to experience developmental delay, difficulties in school and experience social and behavioral problems; and,

WHEREAS, according to Feeding America, over 1.7 million people in Illinois are facing hunger and of them nearly 485,000 are children; and,

WHEREAS, increased healthy food access and food security in Downers Grove enables residents of all ages, ethnicities, and cultures to lead happier, more productive, and more active lives; helps children to develop to their fullest potential and supports thriving local communities; and,

WHEREAS, food banks across the country, including the local FISH Food Pantry, West Suburban Community Pantry, Peoples Resource Center, local churches and others, work not only to meet the needs of those in our community but also to raise awareness and bring attention to the issue of hunger and food insecurity and encourage involvement in efforts to end hunger in their community;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Robert T. Barnett, Mayor of the Village of Downers Grove, do hereby proclaim September, 2026, as National Hunger Action Month in Downers Grove and encourage all residents to find opportunities to donate to, volunteer for, or otherwise help our local food support systems such as Downers Grove Area FISH, the West Suburban Community Pantry, Peoples Resource Center, local churches and others, to promote food access and improve food security wherever possible.

Dated this 1st Day of September 2026, at Downers Grove, Illinois.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Robert T. Barnett', is written over a faint, light green background of the Downers Grove seal.

Mayor