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**September 13, 2022**

**Joint Board Matter with Supervisors Gross and Smith**  
**Request to Proclaim September 2022 as Hunger Action Month**

Members of the Board,

Fairfax County is home to 1.2 million people. According to the Capital Area Food Bank's 2022 Hunger Report, approximately 8% of the population in Fairfax County is severely food insecure, accounting for about 96,000 people. The report also finds that respondents experiencing food insecurity were disproportionately from communities of color, households with children are twice as likely to be affected by food insecurity, and economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic has been uneven.

The Emergency Food Strategy Team (formerly known as the Food Access Subcommittee, created by the Community Provider Coordination Team at the start of the COVID-19 Pandemic) works to collaboratively address food insecurity. The Emergency Food Strategy Team has brought together a diverse group of food providers, comprising 150 individuals representing about 40 organizations, including nonprofits, faith communities and county agencies to address food insecurity in Fairfax County.

Feeding America has designated September as Hunger Action Month, a time when people all over America stand against hunger.

Therefore, we move that the Board designate September 2022 as Hunger Action Month in Fairfax County. We also ask that the Office of Public Affairs prepare a proclamation to be presented outside the Board room, and to advertise the month-long events that residents can participate in and the resources that are available to help end food insecurity in Fairfax County.