



# Proclamation

## By the Governor of Alabama

*WHEREAS*, on March 22, 1972, President Richard Nixon signed into law a measure that amended the Older Americans Act of 1965 and established a national nutrition program for seniors 60 years and older; and

*WHEREAS*, Meals on Wheels America established the March for Meals campaign in March 2002 to recognize the historic month, the importance of the Older Americans Act Nutrition Programs, both congregate and home-delivered and raise awareness about the escalating problem of senior hunger in America; and

*WHEREAS*, the 2018 observance of March for Meals celebrates 16 years of providing an opportunity to support Meals on Wheels programs that deliver vital and critical services by donating, volunteering and raising awareness about senior hunger and isolation; and

*WHEREAS*, Montgomery Area Council On Aging (MACOA) Meals on Wheels program has admirably served for 45 years in Montgomery, AL; and

*WHEREAS*, the 1,400 volunteers for MACOA's Meals on Wheels program in Montgomery, AL, are the backbone of the program and not only deliver nutritious meals to seniors and individuals with disabilities who are at significant risk of hunger and isolation, but also caring concern and attention to their welfare; and

*WHEREAS*, MACOA's Meals on Wheels program in Montgomery provides 404 hot delicious and nutritious meals directly to the doorsteps of homebound seniors throughout Montgomery each day, and has provided over 2,000,000 meals since 1945 that help them maintain their health and independence, thereby preventing unnecessary falls, hospitalizations and/or premature institutionalization; and

*WHEREAS*, MACOA's Meals on Wheels program provide a powerful socialization opportunity for millions of seniors to help combat loneliness and isolation; and

*WHEREAS*, MACOA's Meals on Wheels program in Montgomery, AL deserves recognition for the contributions that have made and will continue to make to local communities, our State and our Nation.

*NOW, THEREFORE*, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim March 2018, as

## March for Meals Month

in the State of Alabama and urge every citizen to take this month to honor MACOA's Meals on Wheels program, the seniors it serves and the volunteers who care for them. Our recognition of, and involvement in, the national 2018 March for Meals can enrich our entire community and help combat senior hunger and isolation in America.



Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the Office of the Governor at the State Capitol in the City of Montgomery on the 21st day of March 2018.

*Kay Ivey*  
Kay Ivey, Governor