

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

RESOLUTION ENDORSING THE POPULATION HEALTH TRUST'S FOOD SECURITY PLAN  
November 21, 2023

**WHEREAS**, the Population Health Trust identified food security as a top priority for COVID recovery; and

**WHEREAS**, 11% of Skagit residents, including 16% of children under 18 years of age are experiencing food insecurity; and

**WHEREAS**, there may be up to 29% additional households experiencing food insecurity in 2021 by utilizing data showing families who are working and earning an income but still struggle to meet their basic needs due to financial constraints (ALICE or Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed); and

**WHEREAS**, it costs more to feed a family in Skagit County than across Washington and the US; and

**WHEREAS**, a 2019 USDA Food Desert Map show that many areas of Skagit County have limited access to healthy foods; and

**WHEREAS**, less than half of Skagit County residents who qualify for the Women Infants and Children program (WIC) are receiving benefits; and

**WHEREAS**, over 39,000 meals were served at Skagit County Senior Centers between January 1 and September 30, 2023, which is an increase of 31% from the same period in 2022; and

**WHEREAS**, Skagit County Meals on Wheels delivered over 89,000 meals between January 1 and September 30, 2023, which is an increase of 12% from the same period in 2022 and on track to meet projections for the greatest need in the history of the program; and

**WHEREAS**, there were an average of 10,500 visits to Skagit County food banks during the first six months of 2023, including an 8% increase from the first to second quarters; and

**WHEREAS**, only 16% of Skagit County kids (grades 8, 10, 12) are eating the USDA daily recommended amount of vegetables; and

**WHEREAS**, 18% of Skagit County adults are eating the USDA daily recommended amount of vegetables and 38% are eating the USDA daily recommended amount of fruit;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, be it resolved, that the Skagit County Board of Health is committed to the vision that "Skagit County has a resilient local food system that provides equitable access to nutritious, sustainable and culturally appropriate food for all" and endorses the goals, strategies and actions contained in the Food Security plan, which calls the community to focus efforts on this plan.

DATED this 21 day of November, 2023.

**BOARD OF HEALTH  
SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON**



  
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Peter Browning, Chair

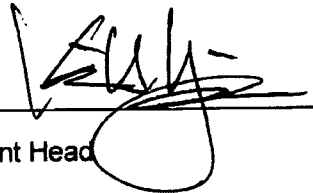
  
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Ron Wesen, Commissioner

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Lisa Janicki, Commissioner


**Attest:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk of the Board

**Recommended:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Department Head

**Approved as to form:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Civil Deputy Prosecuting Attorney