



Office of the Mayor

Proclamation

Whereas:

The West Ohio Food Bank provides food to Allen, Auglaize, Mercer and Shelby counties, serving tens of thousands of Lima residents and other Ohioans in need; and

WHEREAS:

On March 23, 2020, the West Ohio Food Bank had 23 U.S. National Guards arrive to help with outreach efforts in response to COVID-19 and Gov. DeWine's active duty proclamation to assist with humanitarian efforts; and

WHEREAS:

Under the "Operation Steady Resolve" mission 40-45 National Guard personnel were working 5 days a week helping with transporting and distributing food to those in need, packing food boxes at the food bank, assisting with the CSFP (Senior Box) program. In January 2021 those numbers were reduced to 20-25 National Guard personnel at the food bank; and

WHEREAS:

Over the past year the essential workers at the West Ohio Food Bank along with the National Guard distributed 14,121,444 lbs. or the equivalent of 11,767,870 meals throughout the West Ohio Food Bank's service area. These are record numbers, when on average, distributing 6,000,000 lbs. per year is a good year; and

WHEREAS:

West Ohio Food Bank, Partner Agencies, and Community Partners have hosted over 200 community-wide distributions over the past year and 12,323 new families have visited a food pantry or distribution, equating to 56.26% of clientele being new to food bank services since the pandemic began.

NOW THEREFORE:

I, David J. Berger, Mayor of the City of Lima, Ohio do hereby proclaim Friday, March 19, 2021 as

West Ohio Food Bank and Ohio National Guard Day

in the City of Lima, Ohio and urge all residents to recognize and applaud the hard work and dedication of the West Ohio Food Bank and the Ohio National Guard in going above and beyond in helping our community during this pandemic.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Seal of the City of Lima, Ohio, this 19th day of March, 2021.



DAVID J. BERGER, MAYOR
CITY OF LIMA, OHIO