

# PROCLAMATION

**Whereas**, In the United States, 11.7 million children live in households where people have to skip meals or eat less to make ends meet. That means one in 10 households in the U.S. are living with hunger or are at risk of hunger; and

**Whereas**, last year in Oregon, The Oregon Food Bank delivered over 43 million pounds of food to families in need and another 15 million to programs serving low-income people, through 884 local programs; and

**Whereas**, 37% of household members receiving an emergency food box were under the age of 18 and 49% of households were homes with children; and

**Whereas**, the Oregon City H.O.P.E. program (Helping Other People Eat) was founded in 1988 when several churches in Oregon City banded together to share in the work of feeding the hungry in the Oregon City, Gladstone and West Linn areas; and

**Whereas**, H.O.P.E. volunteers put in more than 400 hours a month collecting food, stocking shelves and packing food boxes so that families and individuals in need can come to a H.O.P.E. pantry once a month to receive a nutritionally balanced three-day supply of food; and

**Whereas**, the H.O.P.E. program feeds about 700 families each month through five Oregon City churches that host H.O.P.E. during the week, and is an Oregon Food Bank member agency; and

**Whereas**, the number of people who need food has overwhelmed the existing food supplies in Oregon City; and

**Whereas**, the First Annual Oregon City Food Drive is running from May 5-18<sup>th</sup>, sponsored by the Oregon City United Methodist Church to fill the pantries at all 5 H.O.P.E. churches.

**Now therefore, I, Alice Norris**, Mayor of Oregon City, do hereby proclaim

**May 5-18, 2008**

as

**Oregon City's First Annual Food Drive**

sponsored by the Oregon City United Methodist Church to fill the pantries at all 5 H.O.P.E. churches, and I urge all citizens to drop off food in barrels located throughout the city, including City Hall and the Library, to replenish the supplies of food so severely needed by people in our community



  
ALICE NORRIS, Mayor