



COUNTY OF YORK, VIRGINIA

America's Future Since 1781

P26-3

PROCLAMATION

BENEFIT PROGRAMS SPECIALIST APPRECIATION MONTH

FEBRUARY, 2026

WHEREAS, Virginia has provided essential benefits to the most vulnerable citizens of the Commonwealth through programs such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Medical Assistance, Child Care Assistance, General Relief, Auxiliary Grant, Foster Care IV-E, Refugee Cash Assistance, Employment Service Programs, Energy Assistance, and Percentage of Income Payment Program (PIPP), all administered by local departments of Social Services; and

WHEREAS, Virginia's Benefit Programs Specialists strive to adhere to VDSS core values of commitment to excellence, performing high-quality work with integrity, civility and accountability; embracing differences, being culturally sensitive, valuing diverse backgrounds and ensuring fairness and inclusion; and People First by upholding our commitment to the Commonwealth working each day to create better outcomes for the individuals, families and communities we serve; and

WHEREAS, Virginia's 3,453 Benefit Programs staff – including 2,945 specialists, 463 supervisors, 45 managers, 426 Child Care Specialists and 468 Virginia Initiative for Education and Work (VIEW)/SNAP Employment and Training (SNAP E&T) specialists – have been instrumental in meeting community needs, processing applications, and managing cases to ensure qualified individuals receive the social services they need; and

WHEREAS, significant financial support has been extended to Virginia's vulnerable populations, including 34,878 TANF recipients, 5,346 participants in Virginia Initiative for Education and Work (VIEW), 45 TANF Emergency Assistance recipients, 99 TANF Diversionary Assistance recipients; 869 SNAP Employment and Training (SNAP E&T) participants, 867,192 SNAP participants; 1,879,947 Medical Assistance recipients; 356 General Relief recipients; 2,849 Auxiliary Grant recipients; 199,419 Energy Assistance households; 33,051 Percentage of Income Payment Program (PIPP) households; 27,226 Child Care households; 1,839 IV-E Foster Care Children under 17 served; and 461 IV-E young adults (18-21 years old) are served through benefit programs; and

WHEREAS, Virginia's Benefit Programs Specialists exemplify the core values of ethical public service by respecting human dignity, demonstrating personal integrity, promoting professional excellence and ensuring the accurate application of current policies and guidance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED by the York County Board of Supervisors that February, 2026, be, and it is hereby, designated as **Benefit Programs Specialist Appreciation Month** in the County of York, Virginia.

IN WITNESS, WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the County of York, Virginia, to be affixed this the 9th day of February, 2026.



Douglas R. Holroyd, Chairman
York County Board of Supervisors