

# Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, approximately half of the population will have a period every month for decades of their lives, making period supplies a necessary product each month for millions of people across the country; and

**WHEREAS**, national surveys and research studies report that one in four menstruating individuals struggle to secure enough period supplies to meet their needs each month due to a lack of income; and

**WHEREAS**, this lack of period supplies, known as period poverty, can adversely affect the health and well-being of menstruators; and

**WHEREAS**, national surveys also report that one in five menstruating individuals miss work or school due to lacking a sufficient amount of period supplies; and

**WHEREAS**, period poverty exacerbates the vicious cycle of poverty by forcing menstruators to withdraw from daily life, losing pay or missing educational opportunities; and

**WHEREAS**, menstruators struggling with period poverty risk infections by using proxy products – such as socks or toilet paper – or not changing products as often as needed; and

**WHEREAS**, the people of Chapel Hill recognize that period poverty is a public health issue, and addressing period poverty can lead to economic opportunity and improved health for women and girls/menstruators, thus ensuring all people have access to the basic necessities required to thrive and reach their full potential; and

**WHEREAS**, Chapel Hill, North Carolina is proud to be home to trusted community-based organizations, including Period Power, a program of the Diaper Bank of North Carolina, that help address these issues by distributing period products through various channels.

**HOW, THEREFORE**, we, the Mayor and Town Council of Chapel Hill, do hereby proclaim May 11<sup>th</sup> through May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2026 as

## **PERIOD POVERTY AWARENESS WEEK**

in Chapel Hill and encourage everyone who is able to donate generously to period supply banks, product drives, and those organizations that collect and distribute period products to those struggling with period poverty, so that all people can live with dignity, maintain their health and well-being, and fully participate in school, work, and community life without interruptions.



GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF THE TOWN OF CHAPEL HILL, ON THIS THE TWENTY-NINTH DAY OF APRIL IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-SIX.

*Joe C. [Signature]*