

# TOWNSHIP of VERONA Proclamation

## for VERONA FIGHTS HUNGER WEEK 2025

WHEREAS, the Junior Woman's Club of Verona, Inc. is a versatile organization that has been involved in social and charitable work in the community since its inception in 1926; and

WHEREAS, the Verona Junior Woman's Club continues to be a group of dedicated [1] women who attempt to reach all people in the community by doing their best to bring to life the Junior Women's Club motto of "Joy in Service — Pride in Achievement"; and

WHEREAS, the number of suburban residents living in or at risk of poverty and hunger has risen dramatically in recent years; and

WHEREAS, a 2020 study of Financial Hardship issued by the United Way found that of New Jersey's 3.3+ million households, 10% live below the Federal poverty line and 37% earn less than the basic cost of living for our State; and

WHEREAS, the same report shows that in Verona 21% of the population earns less than the basic cost of living for our State, and 4.5% of our residents live below the Federal poverty line; and

WHEREAS, last year over 25 local businesses, civic groups, charities, religious organizations and each school in the Township participates in this food drive; and

WHEREAS, the success of the project over the past 11 years has accrued nearly 24,000 bags of non-perishable food items and more than \$52,000 in monetary donations for two food pantries that serve Verona and surrounding communities; and

WHEREAS, the Juniors have already delivered scores of bags of fresh food to the Holy Spirit Pantry in Verona; and

WHEREAS, on October 18, 2025 the Juniors will arrange for Casella and Sons Moving Service to bring nearly 1,000 more bags of collected food to the Human Needs Pantry of Montclair and the Township of Verona will be offering their assistance to this worthwhile cause.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Dr. Christopher Tamburro, Mayor of the Township of Verona hereby recognizes the Junior Women's Club of Verona and the Verona Fights Hunger Week committee and appreciate their dedication to assisting those in need.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and cause the Official Seal of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey to be affixed this 6th day of October in the year 2025.



Dr. Christopher Tamburro  
Mayor