

*Proclamation Recognizing August 2026 as
National Breastfeeding Month*

- Whereas* Breastfeeding offers unique health benefits essential for an infant’s growth and development, while also playing a crucial role in reducing the risk of infectious and chronic diseases, safeguarding the health of both mothers and their children; and
- Whereas* The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends exclusive breastfeeding for the initial six months after birth, with continuation of breastfeeding for two years or longer as mutually desired by mother and child, a recommendation that is also supported by the World Health Organization; and
- Whereas* The United States Department of Agriculture and cooperating state health departments, territories, and tribal organizations promote and support breastfeeding as the best source of infant nutrition through the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) and other nutrition assistance programs; and
- Whereas* WIC plays a pivotal role in educating the public on laws that protect a woman’s right to breastfeed in public and provides information on the national protections under the PUMP Act (2022), which guarantees pumping breaks and private spaces for nursing employees in various professions, thereby supporting mothers’ ability to provide breastmilk after returning to the workforce; and
- Whereas* Hidalgo County is proudly celebrating over 50 years of WIC services, a program that has profoundly improved pregnancy outcomes and the health and developmental outcomes of children; and
- Whereas* Hidalgo County honors the WIC Peer Counseling Program and the Lactation Care Center, where mothers can receive expert breastfeeding assistance from International Board Certified Lactation Consultants. Hidalgo County also recognizes the dedication of Hidalgo County WIC employees for their commitment to breastfeeding support and has reinforced this year’s Texas WIC theme of “Breastfeeding Support Anytime, Anywhere,” highlighting the breastfeeding resources available day and night to support our WIC families.

Now, therefore, be it proclaimed that the Hidalgo County Commissioners Court hereby recognizes August 2026 as National Breastfeeding Month and encourages the community to learn about the importance of breastfeeding, support breastfeeding initiatives, and contribute to a nurturing environment that prioritizes the health and well-being of mothers and infants throughout Hidalgo County.

Approved this 18th day of August 2026.

RICHARD F. CORTEZ
County Judge

DAVID L. FUENTES
County Commissioner, Pct. 1

EDUARDO “EDDIE” CANTU
County Commissioner, Pct. 2

EVERARDO “EVER” VILLARREAL
County Commissioner, Pct. 3

ELLIE TORRES
County Commissioner, Pct. 4

Attest: **ARTURO GUAJARDO, JR.**
County Clerk