

November 23, 2020

RE: Essential Personnel representing the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank (BRAFB) and its Network of Partner Food Pantries and Programs

To Whom It May Concern,

The person holding this letter is considered essential personnel, pursuant to guidance issued by Governor Ralph Northam on November 13, 2020.

The guidance entitled, Executive Order Sixty-Seven (2020), states that "Nothing in the order shall limit:

- a. The provision of health care or medical services:
- b. Access to essential services for low-income residents, such as food banks;
- c. The operations of the media;
- d. Law enforcement agencies;
- e. The operation of the government"

Virginia's COVID-19 plans, across all 3 phases, exempts operations, employees, and volunteers working on behalf of food banks and food pantries.

The Blue Ridge Area Food Bank and its partners provide an essential human service across 25 counties and 8 cities in central and western Virginia.

Sincerely,

Michael McKee

Chief Executive Officer