WHEREAS, Community Action is vital to Tennesseans growing beyond the need of supportive services and aims to combat poverty within communities by removing the barriers to self-sufficiency individuals and families may encounter; and

WHEREAS, Community Action has made essential contributions to individuals and families across this Nation by creating economic opportunities and strengthening communities; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Department of Human Services Community Service Block Grant (CSBG) purpose is that everybody should have equal opportunity to achieve their highest potential in partnership with their families and communities; and

WHEREAS, Community Action promotes community-wide solutions to challenges throughout our cities, suburbs, and rural areas; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee’s Community Service Block Grant Network, comprised of a collection of 20 Community Action Agencies (CAAs) and Human Resource Agencies (HRAs) that reach all 95 counties of the state to provide services to eligible individuals and families to improve the communities in which they live; and

WHEREAS, Community Action Agencies in Tennessee utilize the Community Service Block Grant to address specific local needs through services and programs that address one or more of the core domains in which we work: employment, education and cognitive development, income, infrastructure and asset building, housing, health and social behavioral development, and civic engagement and community involvement; and

WHEREAS, Community Action is a robust state and local force connecting people to lifechanging services and creating pathways to prosperity in 99% of all American counties; and

WHEREAS, Community Action builds and promotes economic stability as an essential aspect of enabling and enhancing stronger communities and stable homes; and

WHEREAS, Community Action delivers innovative services and supports that create greater opportunities for families and children to succeed; and

WHEREAS, Community Action Agencies with the support of Community Service Block Grant can serve on average approximately 332,000 individuals and 170,000 households in Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Community Action insists on community participation and involvement ensuring that all sectors of the community have a voice and will be heard; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee’s 20 Community Action Agencies and Human Resource Agencies are centrally located to serve their communities and collaborate with approximately 5,000 partners made up of a collection of non-profits, for-profits, faith-based organizations and school districts across the state for maximum impact; and

WHEREAS, Community Action is celebrating 58 years of innovation, impact, and providing proven results for Americans;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Lee, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim May 2022 as

Community Action Month

in Tennessee and encourage all citizens to join me in this worthy observance.