# **Dear Expecting Mother,**

Congratulations on your pregnancy! This is an exciting time for you and your family. Proper nutrition is essential for the health of you and your baby. Below are some important guidelines to help you maintain a nutritious diet during your pregnancy:

### 1. Balanced Diet

Include a variety of foods from all food groups: fruits, vegetables, whole grains, protein sources, and dairy. This ensures you receive essential vitamins and minerals.

### 2. Folic Acid

Consume foods rich in folate, such as leafy greens, nuts, and fortified cereals. Folic acid is crucial for preventing neural tube defects.

## 3. Hydration

Drink plenty of water throughout the day to stay hydrated. Aim for at least 8-10 cups of fluids.

#### 4. Avoid Certain Foods

Limit your intake of caffeine, avoid alcohol, and steer clear of raw or undercooked seafood, eggs, and meat to reduce the risk of foodborne illnesses.

#### 5. Healthy Weight Gain

Consult with your healthcare provider about appropriate weight gain based on your prepregnancy weight.

#### 6. Regular Meals and Snacks

Eat regular meals along with healthy snacks to maintain your energy levels and meet your nutritional needs.

If you have any dietary restrictions or specific concerns, please consult with a registered dietitian or your healthcare provider.

Wishing you a healthy and happy pregnancy!

#### Best Regards,

Your Healthcare Provider