SANTA FE COUNTY RESOLUTION NO. 2017 - 84

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE SIXTH ANNUAL NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR FOOD DRIVE IN COORDINATION WITH THE CITY OF SANTA FE AND SANTA FE FOOD DEPOT ON SEPTEMBER 16, 2017 AND AUTHORIZING THE USE OF COUNTY FACILITIES FOR THE COLLECTION OF NON-PERISHABLE FOOD DONATIONS

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners (the Board) of Santa Fe County (the County) recognizes that the importance of food security in the County; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico consistently ranks as one of the worst states for food security with more than 70,000 people seeking food assistance each week; and

WHEREAS, over 26,000 people live in poverty in Santa Fe County, including over 7,800 children and research has demonstrated that children who go without adequate healthy food are negatively impacted in their development and educational progress; and

WHEREAS, public and private partnerships can assist in meeting the food needs of those seeking food assistance in the County and it is the mission of The Food Depot to end hunger in Northern New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, The Food Depot fulfills this goal through serving as the food bank for nine Northern New Mexico counties, providing food to more than 145 nonprofit agencies including emergency food pantries, hot meal programs, homeless shelters, youth programs, senior centers, homes for the mentally disabled and shelters for battered persons; and

WHEREAS, in 2016, The Food Depot distributed an average of 520,000 pounds of food each month, providing more than 430,000 meals to people in need; and

WHEREAS, since 2011, the neighborhoods in Santa Fe area have participated in donating food to The Food Depot through an area-wide Neighborhood Association Neighbor to Neighbor Food Drive, organized every September during national "Hunger Action Month", and this food drive has grown exponentially over the last six years; and

WHEREAS, in 2015, 37 neighborhoods donated a total of 10 tons, or 20,546 pounds of food to this drive, therefore providing 17,122 meals for those in need; and

WHEREAS, in 2016, 77 neighborhoods donated in combination of pounds of food and monetary donations, a grand total of over 48 tons or 96,000 pounds of food to this drive, therefore providing 80,000 meals for those in need;

WHEREAS, on Saturday, September 16, 2017, the Neighborhood Associations and Communities of the Santa Fe area will again band together for the Sixth Annual Area-Wide "Neighbor to Neighbor Food Drive"; and

WHEREAS, the County can facilitate private donations of food for the benefit of people seeking food assistance by providing locations at County facilities where members of the public can drop off non-perishable food donations;

WHEREAS, the County will select the drop off locations at County facilities that will not interrupt or interfere with County operations; and

WHEREAS, The Food Depot is prepared to collect the food from the County facilities for distribution as part of the Neighbor to Neighbor food drive.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

- The Board supports and encourages the important food collection efforts of the sixth annual Neighbor to Neighbor Food Drive.
 - The Board authorizes the County Manager to have staff:
 - Inform communities and neighborhoods throughout the County of the opportunity to drop off non-perishable food donations at various County facilities, as part of the 2017 Neighbor to Neighbor Food Drive;
 - b. Establish sites at County facilities that will not interrupt or interfere with County operations, where members of the public can drop off non-perishable food donations for pick up by The Food Depot as part of the Neighbor to Neighbor Food Drive; and
 - c. Work cooperatively with the City to alleviate hunger in the County.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED THIS 8th DAY OF AUGUST, 2017.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Henry P. Roybal, Chair

Geraldine Salazar, Santa Fe County Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

COUNTY OF SANTA FE STATE OF NEW MEXICO

I Hereby Certify That This Instrument Was Filed for Record On The 9TH Day Of August, 2017 at 09:14:50 AM And Was Duly Recorded as Instrument # 1833239 Of The Records Of Santa Fe County

Gregory S. Shaffer, Santa Fe County Attorney

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