**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE THE FORT MILL CARE CENTER ON BEING NAMED AN “ANGEL” ON SOUTH CAROLINA SECRETARY OF STATE MARK HAMMOND’S 2013 “SCROOGES AND ANGELS” LIST.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is pleased to learn that the Fort Mill Care Center has been named a 2013 “Angel” on the “Scrooges and Angels” list annually compiled by South Carolina Secretary of State Mark Hammond; and

Whereas, the Scrooges and Angels list recognized ten South Carolina charitable organizations, including the Fort Mill Care Center, as “Angels” for meeting certain criteria, including strong volunteer programs, minimal grant funding, and the use of eighty percent or more of revenue to meet goals; and

Whereas, under the leadership of Carol Higgins, director of the care center, the organization spends 97.6 percent of its income, mostly private donations, on program services, although that percentage might be slightly lower next year, now that the center has moved to a new facility and must pay rent. Previously, the center operated rent‑ and utility‑free in space owned by the Fort Mill School District. Even with added expenses, however, the care center manages to keep its overhead below ten percent; and

Whereas, the Secretary of State’s office was highly impressed that the center is an entirely volunteer‑run organization, with a service record covering Fort Mill Township, including Indian Land, that dates back nearly twenty‑five years, and Director Higgins testifies that its devoted long‑term volunteers have made and kept the care center what it is. Residents in need can obtain food from the center’s pantry and assistance in paying certain living expenses, e.g., utility bills and prescriptions, among other services; and

Whereas, in October 2013, the care center distributed more than eleven thousand pounds of food to clients, more than $14,000 in utility assistance, $2,205 in prescription‑drug assistance, and $1,119 for other medical assistance. Volunteers worked 539 hours in October 2013; and

Whereas, the Angel award came to the Fort Mill Care Center just as its volunteers were preparing to kick off a capital campaign to finance a new building, needed because the center’s present space is inadequate for the support of a large food pantry; and

Whereas, the House of Representatives, grateful for the consistent commitment and excellence the Fort Mill Care Center has demonstrated in assisting those in need, takes great pleasure in saluting the center on being selected to receive this latest honor, a coveted Angel’s berth on South Carolina Secretary of State Mark Hammond’s 2013 “Scrooges and Angels” list. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, congratulate the Fort Mill Care Center on being named an “Angel” on South Carolina Secretary of State Mark Hammond’s 2013 “Scrooges and Angels” list.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to the Fort Mill Care Center.

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