**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE AND HONOR FOOD FOR THE SOUL AT THE CELEBRATION OF ITS TENTH ANNIVERSARY, TO THANK THIS FINE ORGANIZATION FOR ITS DEDICATION IN SERVING THE HUNGRY AND HOMELESS IN KERSHAW COUNTY, AND TO EXTEND BEST WISHES FOR MANY MORE YEARS OF FRUITFUL SERVICE.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is pleased to learn that Food for the Soul, a ministry that serves the hungry and homeless in Kershaw County, is celebrating its tenth anniversary; and

Whereas, what started as a dream ultimately turned into reality. Years ago, God gave several Kershaw County residents the same vision of a ministry to serve the hungry and homeless in the community. They talked about it among friends and fellow church members and at work. In December 2008, the dream began coming to life. Two local individuals left money in their estates to serve those in need in Kershaw County. Their gifts became the seed money for what is now called Food for the Soul of Kershaw County; and

Whereas, 2019 marks the tenth anniversary of the first meals served at Mt. Moriah Baptist Church under the ministry name Food for the Soul. Since then, FFTS has grown tremendously. It has built a center with a DHEC‑approved commercial kitchen, two bathrooms, laundry facilities, and sleeping arrangements for up to fifty people. In addition, FFTS is designated as a special‑needs facility in the event of a major weather event or other emergency in the county. Meals are still served Tuesday through Friday, and the shelter is open three hundred sixty‑five days a year; and

Whereas, more meals than ever are being served every day. As of May 31, 2019, more than one thousand meals have been served compared to this same time last year. If the trend continues, thirty thousand meals will have been prepared by the end of 2019, six thousand more than in 2018; and

Whereas, eight paid staff members operate the many services offered. FFTS is also blessed with many loyal volunteers who help prepare and serve all meals, organize the pantries, and launder bedding and clothing daily; and

Whereas, Food for the Soul operates under this worthy mission statement: “to serve as a Christ‑like ministry, committed to providing food and shelter, awakening hope, and honoring dignity to those in need in Kershaw County”; and

Whereas, the House, grateful for the compassionate ministry of Food for the Soul, takes great pleasure in applauding the organization on a decade of committed service to Kershaw County. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, congratulate and honor Food for the Soul at the celebration of its tenth anniversary, thank this fine organization for its dedication in serving the hungry and homeless in Kershaw County, and extend best wishes for many more years of fruitful service.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Food for the Soul.

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