**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE THE GREATER GREENWOOD UNITED MINISTRY ON THE OCCASION OF ITS TWENTY‑FIFTH ANNIVERSARY AND TO WISH THIS FINE ORGANIZATION ALL THE BEST AS IT SEEKS TO EMPOWER THE CITIZENS OF GREENWOOD COUNTY TO MOVE BEYOND LIFE CRISES AND MAKE BETTER LIFE CHOICES.

Whereas, with much interest, the South Carolina House of Representatives notes that the Greater Greenwood United Ministry is celebrating its twenty‑fifth anniversary in 2020; and

Whereas, Greater Greenwood United Ministry’s history is a unique story of the Christian community’s coming together to improve lives and renew hope by helping people get beyond their life crises and make better life choices. The ministry’s volunteers and supporters have a passion for the mission of the ministry, and for the last two and a half decades that shared passion has allowed the ministry to assist uninsured and underserved residents of Greenwood County who have spiritual, physical, and emotional needs; and

Whereas, a nonprofit, multifaceted ministry owned and operated by member Christian congregations of Greenwood County, Greater Greenwood United Ministry serves the needs of a very vulnerable and fragile population. Those churches that join the organization avoid duplication of services and have qualified persons investigating each individual need; and

Whereas, the ministry’s free medical clinic is the only one in Greenwood County that provides free dental services with its free medical services, and it is the only source of free prescription medicine in the county. All services are provided by volunteers, including physicians, nurses, pharmacists, lab technicians, administrators, interviewers, receptionists, and others; and

Whereas, Self Regional Healthcare is a critical partner for the Greater Greenwood United Ministry Free Medical Clinic. Self Regional’s support of the clinic since its inception has helped provide primary healthcare for anyone in the community who cannot afford health insurance and does not qualify for Medicaid or Medicare. With this support, the free medical clinic also has been able to expand services to McCormick and Saluda counties through the Greenwood location and increase services to McCormick County through a monthly mobile health clinic; and

Whereas, the crisis ministry conducts interviews with clients who are experiencing a life crisis to assess the need. Financial assistance is available in cases of rent eviction and utility disconnection. In addition, the crisis ministry offers assistance with food, homeless referral, and free eyeglasses, as well as counseling in budgeting, career planning, and matters of emotional, spiritual, and legal import. Intervention and prevention services in job searching, accompanied by job coaching and budget coaching, help promote personal accountability in the lives of clients and assist them in preventing a future life crisis; and

Whereas, through these services, Greater Greenwood United Ministry seeks to “give a hand up and not a handout”; and

Whereas, grateful for the Greater Greenwood United Ministry’s outstanding achievements over the past quarter century, the House takes great pleasure in applauding this dedicated organization and in extending best wishes for many more years of excellence in service to Greenwood 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 the Greater Greenwood United Ministry on the occasion of its twenty‑fifth anniversary and wish this fine organization all the best as it seeks to empower the citizens of Greenwood County to move beyond life crises and make better life choices.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to the Greater Greenwood United Ministry.

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