**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE BEYOND ABUSE UPON THE OCCASION OF ITS THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF SERVICE TO ABBEVILLE, GREENWOOD, AND LAURENS COUNTIES IN LEADING ITS COMMUNITY BEYOND SEXUAL VIOLENCE AND CHILD ABUSE THROUGH AWARENESS, ADVOCACY, AND ACTION.

Whereas, for three decades, Beyond Abuse, a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization, has promoted a society that is knowledgeable about sexual violence and child abuse in an effort to reduce the number of these crimes in its community; and

Whereas, Beyond Abuse works to ensure that individuals and families receive the support needed to recover from sexual violence and child abuse; and

Whereas, in 2021 alone, Beyond Abuse provided four hundred nine child intakes, served one hundred fifty‑nine adult victims, and provided fifty‑two emergency department and crisis hotline responses in Abbeville, Greenwood, and Laurens counties; and

Whereas, the children’s advocacy program also serves Newberry County; and

Whereas, Beyond Abuse offers a 24/7 crisis response hotline, crisis support, and emergency department on‑call support and accompaniment, as well as advocacy, therapy, assistance with filing victim’s compensation, and education and awareness programs; and

Whereas, in addition, children ages seventeen and under who are referred by law enforcement agencies or the Department of Social Services may receive forensic interviews, child‑maltreatment medical exams, and multidisciplinary team case reviews; and

Whereas, Beyond Abuse also offers law enforcement and criminal justice system accompaniment; information about the criminal justice system; assistance with crime victim compensation claims; court preparation; court accompaniment during pretrial hearings, trial hearings, and posttrial hearings upon request; referrals to other social service agencies and community resources; personal advocacy sessions to discuss basic needs or concerns; and education about community resources; and

Whereas, Beyond Abuse operates one of fifteen sexual assault programs and one of seventeen accredited children’s advocacy programs in South Carolina; and

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is grateful for the dedication and vision of Beyond Abuse and for the valuable services the organization offers to the citizens of this great State. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, congratulate Beyond Abuse upon the occasion of its thirtieth anniversary of service to Abbeville, Greenwood, and Laurens counties in leading its community beyond sexual violence and child abuse through awareness, advocacy, and action.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Beyond Abuse.

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