

2022 SESSION

ENROLLED

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 106

Commending Winchester Rescue Mission.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, March 8, 2022

WHEREAS, the Winchester Rescue Mission is a noble and distinguished organization that has cared for vulnerable members of the Winchester community for nearly 50 years; and

WHEREAS, the Winchester Rescue Mission was founded in July 1973 by Morris Whitaker to serve as a shelter for homeless men in Winchester and has since grown to provide case management, residential shelter, hygiene resources, and food distribution throughout the local area; and

WHEREAS, the Winchester Rescue Mission expanded its service population in 2018 by opening the shelter's doors to homeless women in the area for the first time in the organization's history; and

WHEREAS, the Winchester Rescue Mission fights hunger by serving a free community dinner that is always open to both shelter residents and families every day of the year; and

WHEREAS, the Winchester Rescue Mission partners with a food bank and local grocers to continuously offer packaged food and produce to any local resident in need; and

WHEREAS, the Winchester Rescue Mission provides restrooms, hot showers, and laundry facilities to support the health and hygiene of both its shelter residents and members of the community; and

WHEREAS, even amidst widespread financial hardship during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Winchester Rescue Mission saw a record number of clients successfully move out of its shelter; and

WHEREAS, the accomplishments of the Winchester Rescue Mission are the result of the visionary leadership of its founder and the resolute dedication of its staff and volunteers; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That the Winchester Rescue Mission hereby be commended for its nearly half-century of service to the Winchester community; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Brandon Thomas, executive director of the Winchester Rescue Mission, as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for the organization's contributions to the Commonwealth.

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