

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

22-451

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

December 18, 2018

To recognize and honor Capitol Hill Group Ministry for 50 years of service to individuals and families at risk of or experiencing homelessness on Capitol Hill and across the District of Columbia.

WHEREAS, Capitol Hill Group Ministry was incorporated 50 years ago by Capitol Hill churches collectively seeking to address the challenges faced by their congregants and communities;

WHEREAS, Capitol Hill Group Ministry strives every day towards fulfilling its vision of a District of Columbia that is a thriving and diverse community where all people can obtain and remain in safe, affordable, and comfortable homes;

WHEREAS, Capitol Hill Group Ministry advocates to prevent and end homelessness in Washington, D.C., and ensure that the well-being of the people it serves is at the forefront of policy decisions, provides meaningful ways for people with lived experience to be involved in this work, and collaborates with others to identify causes and propose solutions to end homelessness in the District;

WHEREAS, Capitol Hill Group Ministry works with neighbors, faith communities, local businesses, and civic organizations in Washington, D.C. to provide resources for families and individuals who are homeless or in crisis so that they may lead healthy, fulfilling, and productive lives;

WHEREAS, Capitol Hill Group Ministry operates Shirley's Place, the only daytime drop-in center in Southeast D.C. for individuals and families, which, in addition to the showers, laundry, and restroom facilities, offers a place for workshops, respite, light meals, and case management;

WHEREAS, Capitol Hill Group Ministry's Street Outreach Program utilizes a person-centered approach to build and maintain relationships with our chronically homeless neighbors in Ward 6 and supports them in meeting their immediate needs and achieving long-term goals, including obtaining stable housing;

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WHEREAS, Capitol Hill Group Ministry engages our Homeless Assistance Response Team (“HART”) volunteers to supplement our Street Outreach efforts by walking the streets of Capitol Hill, providing life-saving care to our homeless neighbors;

WHEREAS, in 2017, HART deployed 105 times and had 1,275 engagements with homeless neighbors, of which 30 deployments were on hypothermia alert nights when homeless neighbors are most vulnerable;

WHEREAS, Capitol Hill Group Ministry provides family homelessness prevention and housing stabilization services to families at imminent risk of homelessness, including 656 adults and 1,062 children in 2017, while 112 families in 2017 secured their own apartments and 91% of the families in its program avoided a shelter stay;

WHEREAS, Capitol Hill Group Ministry supports families in short- and long-term housing programs to stabilize their housing and increase their economic self-sufficiency; and

WHEREAS, each holiday season, Capitol Hill Group Ministry distributes hundreds of food baskets and gifts so local families can enjoy the season and, in preparation for the new school year, Capitol Hill Group Ministry distributes hundreds of backpacks filled with school supplies to encourage a fresh start to the new year.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the “Capitol Hill Group Ministry 50th Anniversary Recognition Resolution of 2018”.

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia expresses its appreciation to Capitol Hill Group Ministry for 50 years of meeting the holistic needs of thousands of vulnerable individuals and families at risk of or experiencing homelessness on Capitol Hill and across the District of Columbia.

Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of publication in the District of Columbia Register.