



RESOLUTION No. _____

OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF NEVADA

RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING 2017 AS INTERFAITH FOOD MINISTRY'S 30TH ANNIVERSARY; FEEDING FAMILIES, FUELING HOPE FOR 30 YEARS

WHEREAS, the impetus for Interfaith Food Ministry (IFM) began with Mary Chan's trip to Hong Kong, China and the Philippines in 1981 which provided her the notion that "charity begins at home"; and

WHEREAS, Mary Chan founded Operation Blessings that collected food at local grocery stores, Luckys and Safeway, and distributing donated food out of a small house through the fiscal support of the Saint Patrick's Church and Calvary Bible Church; and

WHEREAS, Operation Blessings grew to currently feed at least 3,500 client families annually and in 1987 resulted in the formation of the IFM through the collaboration between fifteen community churches; and

WHEREAS, the IFM is a nonprofit public benefit corporation 501(c)(3) organized exclusively for charitable purposes that relies on contributions from individuals, congregations, service organizations, grants and local businesses and farmers; and

WHEREAS, Sue Van Son, Executive Director, and Bob Thurman, Board President, were instrumental in working to enable the IFM to purchase a new building on Henderson Street in Grass Valley in 2013; and

WHEREAS, in 2015, 14,000 Nevada County residents were identified as food insecure due to a lack of reliable access to a sufficient quantity of affordable, nutritious food that included seniors on fixed incomes, single parents, disabled individuals and working parents; and

WHEREAS, in 2016, IFM provided 92,534 bags of groceries to 7,621 clients including holiday meals to 476 families at Easter, 909 families at Thanksgiving and 726 families at Christmas; and

WHEREAS, IFM contributions also helped provide cooking classes, nutrition education, and information on community resources such as CalFresh; and

WHEREAS, IFM's achievements in 2016 included installing solar power, collaborated with Nevada County Public Health Department to develop and implement a Nutrition Policy to assist in alleviating the chronic health issues created by food insecurity, partnering with United Way, obtaining grants from several service organizations, and increasing protein options for clients; and

WHEREAS, IFM has more than 450 volunteers, including Marian Jones who has been serving since 1987, assist as drivers, distributors, interviewers, packers, supervisors, and receptionists that serve over 5,710 registered families.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of Nevada County hereby proclaims 2017 as Interfaith Food Ministry's 30th Anniversary; Feeding Families, Fueling Hope for 30 years.