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CITY OF SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-35

INTRODUCED BY:

Councilor JoAnne Vigil Coppler

Councilor Jamie Cassutt-Sanchez

Councilor Renee Villareal

Councilor Michael Garcia

Councilor Chris Rivera

A RESOLUTION

SUPPORTING THE NINTH ANNUAL NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR FUND DRIVE.

WHEREAS, according to Feeding America’s “Map the Meal Gap”, New Mexico consistently ranks as one of the worst states for food security; and

WHEREAS, the same study found that, in New Mexico, more than 320,000 people seek food assistance annually; and

WHEREAS, additionally, over 18,300 people live in poverty in Santa Fe County including over 5,900 children; and

WHEREAS, the study also found that in Santa Fe County, one in four children are affected by hunger; and

WHEREAS, research has demonstrated children who go without adequate healthy food cannot thrive nor learn well; and

WHEREAS, public and private partnerships can both feed children and improve the local agricultural economy; and

WHEREAS, it is the mission of The Food Depot to end hunger in Northern New Mexico; and

1 **WHEREAS**, the Food Depot fulfills this goal through serving as the food bank for nine
2 Northern New Mexico counties, providing food to more than 145 nonprofit agencies, including
3 emergency food pantries, hot meal programs, homeless shelters, youth programs, senior centers,
4 homes for the mentally disabled, and shelters for battered persons; and

5 **WHEREAS**, in 2019, the Food Depot distributed an average of 527,000 pounds of food
6 each month, providing more than 439,000 meals to people in need, including the most vulnerable
7 in our community; and

8 **WHEREAS**, more than just feeding people, The Food Depot is trying to help people
9 change their lives; and

10 **WHEREAS**, every September since 2012, the neighborhoods in the Santa Fe area have
11 participated in donating food to The Food Depot through an area-wide neighborhood association
12 “Neighbor to Neighbor” Food Drive, in conjunction with the national “Hunger Action Month”; and

13 **WHEREAS**, this food drive has grown exponentially over the last eight years; and

14 **WHEREAS**, in 2017, 87 neighborhoods donated, in combination of pounds of food and
15 monetary donations, a grand total of over 76 tons, or 152,297 pounds of food to the drive, thereby
16 providing 126,914 meals for those in need; and

17 **WHEREAS**, in 2018, over 100 neighborhoods and businesses donated, in combination of
18 pounds of food and monetary donations, a grand total of over 100 tons or 240,000 pounds of food
19 to this drive, therefore providing over 200,000 meals for those in need; and

20 **WHEREAS**, the meals provided in 2018 to those in need are equivalent to nearly half of
21 one month’s distribution from The Food Depot, illustrating the importance of the Neighbor to
22 Neighbor Food Drive to accomplishing the mission of the organization; and

23 **WHEREAS**, in 2019, the Santa Fe community provided 364,290 pounds of food, equal to
24 303,575 meals for those in need; and

25 **WHEREAS**, the onset of the novel coronavirus pandemic has restricted the ability of the

1 Food Depot to conduct the annual food drive in the traditional manner; and

2 **WHEREAS**, instead, the Food Depot will accept monetary donations in order to purchase
3 food that will be distributed to needy families in northern New Mexico; and


4 **WHEREAS**, on Saturday, September 19, 2020, the neighborhood associations and
5 communities of the Santa Fe area will again band together for the Ninth Annual Area-Wide
6 "Neighbor to Neighbor Fund Drive" to benefit The Food Depot.

7 **WHEREAS**, the success of this program over the preceding eight years is evidence that
8 the food drive will continue to be an annual event that neighborhood associations across the city
9 look forward to participating in each year, with the encouragement and support of the City and its
10 elected officials.

11 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF**
12 **THE CITY OF SANTA FE** that it supports and encourages the efforts of the eighth annual
13 "Neighbor to Neighbor Fund Drive" on September 19, 2020.

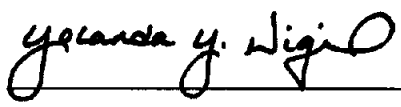
14 PASSED, APPROVED, and ADOPTED this day 26th of August 2020.

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ALAN WEBBER, MAYOR

ATTEST:

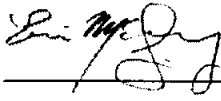


YOLANDA Y. VIGIL, CITY CLERK

1 APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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4 ERIN K. McSHERRY, CITY ATTORNEY

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25 *Legislation/2020/Resolutions/2020-35 Neighbor to Neighbor Fund Drive*