

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 2019-4619, by Representative McCaslin

1 WHEREAS, Greater Spokane County Meals on Wheels was founded in
2 the basement of the Spokane Valley United Methodist Church in 1972,
3 to fight hunger and social isolation among vulnerable adults in the
4 region; and

5 WHEREAS, The daily works performed by the organization's
6 director, Marta Harrington; assistant director, Mark Laskowski; board
7 of directors; staff; and volunteers prevent vulnerable adults in the
8 community from going hungry; and

9 WHEREAS, Their team provides the only home delivery meal program
10 that serves all of Spokane County, from Elk and Deer Park on the
11 north to Rockford and Fairfield on the south, Liberty Lake on the
12 east and Medical Lake on the west; and

13 WHEREAS, Staff and volunteers prepare more than 1,000 fresh-made
14 meals a day, Monday through Friday, served at 12 locations where
15 patrons can enjoy their meals with peers and friends, and delivered
16 to homes between the hours of 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.; and

17 WHEREAS, Each meal served fulfills a third of the daily nutrition
18 and calorie requirements, and allows vulnerable adults to remain
19 living independently while supplementing their lives with social
20 contact; and

21 WHEREAS, The organization's collective efforts span 45 delivery
22 routes across all 1,281 square miles of Spokane County, serving over
23 250,000 meals annually and providing a lifeline that connects

1 vulnerable adults to necessary resources and offers them peace of
2 mind; and

3 WHEREAS, The organization's strength has been its volunteers and
4 organizers, from cofounder Norma Trefry, who guided its growth from a
5 small church-based organization, to Pam Almeida, who served as
6 executive director for 19 years, under whose leadership the program
7 further grew and prospered; and

8 WHEREAS, Not a single delivery was missed during the snowstorms
9 of the last month; and

10 WHEREAS, The Greater Spokane County Meals on Wheels further
11 advocates for vulnerable adults through their annual Champions Week
12 event during the national March for Meals awareness month to advance
13 the efforts and resources impacting their community;

14 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State House
15 of Representatives honor the Greater Spokane County Meals on Wheels
16 director, Marta Harrington; assistant director, Mark Laskowski; board
17 of directors; staff; and volunteers, for their extraordinary efforts
18 and their devotion to the vulnerable adults of Spokane County; and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
20 immediately transmitted by the Chief Clerk of the House of
21 Representatives to Marta Harrington, Mark Laskowski, and the Greater
22 Spokane County Meals on Wheels board of directors, staff, and
23 volunteers.

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25 I hereby certify this to be a true and correct copy of
26 Resolution 4619 adopted by the House of Representatives
27 February 28, 2019
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Bernard Dean, Chief Clerk