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**CITY OF SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2021-\_\_**

**INTRODUCED BY:**

Councilor JoAnne Vigil Coppler

Councilor Jamie Cassutt

Councilor Michael J. Garcia

Councilor Renee Villarreal

Councilor Chris Rivera

**A RESOLUTION**

**SUPPORTING THE TENTH ANNUAL NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR FUND DRIVE.**

**WHEREAS**, according to Feeding America, New Mexico has one of the lowest rankings among 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 three children were affected by hunger during the pandemic; 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;

1 and

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

6           **WHEREAS**, in 2020, the Food Depot distributed an average of 965,500 pounds of food  
7 each month, providing more than 804,500 meals to people in need, including the most vulnerable  
8 in our community; and

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

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

15           **WHEREAS**, this food drive has grown exponentially over the last nine years; and

16           **WHEREAS**, in 2019, the Santa Fe community provided 364,290 pounds of food, equal to  
17 303,575 meals for those in need; and

18           **WHEREAS**, in 2020 the Santa Fe community raised \$170,979, equal to 854,895 pounds  
19 of food, or 712,412 meals for those in need, illustrating the importance of the Neighbor to Neighbor  
20 Fund Drive in accomplishing the mission of the Food Depot; and

21           **WHEREAS**, the onset of the novel coronavirus pandemic restricted the ability of the Food  
22 Depot to conduct the annual food drive in the traditional manner; and

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

25           **WHEREAS**, on Saturday, September 18, 2021, the Food Depot plans to hold the Tenth

1 Annual, Area-Wide “Neighbor to Neighbor Fund Drive” to benefit the Food Depot with the support  
2 of Santa Fe area neighborhoods, businesses, and communities; and

3 **WHEREAS**, the success of the Drive over the preceding nine years is evidence that the it  
4 is well situated to be an annual event that neighborhood associations across the city look forward  
5 to participating in each year, with the encouragement and support of the City and its elected  
6 officials.

7 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF**  
8 **THE CITY OF SANTA FE** that the Governing Boy supports and encourages the efforts of the  
9 Food Depot’s tenth annual “Neighbor to Neighbor Fund Drive” on September 18, 2021.

10 PASSED, APPROVED, and ADOPTED this day \_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

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13 \_\_\_\_\_  
14 ALAN WEBBER, MAYOR

15 ATTEST:

16  
17 \_\_\_\_\_  
18 KRISTINE MIHELICIC, CITY CLERK

19 APPROVED AS TO FORM:

20  
21   
22 ERIN K. McSHERRY, CITY ATTORNEY

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24  
25 *Legislation/2021/Resolutions/Tenth Annual Neighbor to Neighbor Fund Drive*