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## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 189

Offered January 20, 2014

*Commending Good Shepherd Housing and Family Services, Inc.*

Patron—Surovell; Senator: Ebbin

WHEREAS, Good Shepherd Housing and Family Services, Inc., marks 40 years of working to reduce homelessness, increase community support, and promote the potential for self-sufficiency among the working poor in Fairfax County; and

WHEREAS, in 1974, a group of volunteers from a local church helped a couple and their eight children locate safe and suitable housing, marking the beginning of Good Shepherd Housing, whose mission continues today; and

WHEREAS, the award-winning programs developed by Good Shepherd Housing serve Fairfax County residents who have been denied housing in their own names; the organization provides rental housing for its clients and teaches people the skills and discipline needed to improve their credit history and financial situation; and

WHEREAS, in the last four decades, Good Shepherd Housing has helped tens of thousands of people in southeastern Fairfax County; the organization received a *Washington Post* Award for Excellence in Nonprofit Management in 2013; and

WHEREAS, Good Shepherd Housing was presented the 2012 Board Leadership Award from the Center for Nonprofit Advancement; and

WHEREAS, the Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce named Good Shepherd Housing the 2012 Nonprofit of the Year; and

WHEREAS, Good Shepherd Housing for 40 years has continued to provide housing search assistance, financial counseling for low-income families and individuals, and a rich array of children's activities that serve young people's educational, recreational, and social needs; and

WHEREAS, the staff of Good Shepherd Housing works closely with other area agencies that serve Fairfax County's less fortunate citizens, including FACETS; Housing and Community Services of Northern Virginia, Inc.; New Hope Housing; Cornerstones, formerly known as Reston Interfaith; Shelter House, Inc.; and other organizations; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Good Shepherd Housing and Family Services, Inc., on the occasion of its 40th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Good Shepherd Housing and Family Services, Inc., as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for its many years of work to provide housing for less fortunate citizens of the Commonwealth.

INTRODUCED

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