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**HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 274**

Offered February 9, 2016

*Commending Arlington Thrive.*

Patrons—Lopez, Hope, Levine, Rasoul and Sullivan; Senators: Ebbin, Favola and Howell

WHEREAS, since 1975, Arlington Thrive has met an important community need by providing a financial safety net for Arlington residents in crisis with same-day financial assistance for unexpected emergency needs; and

WHEREAS, uniting Arlington County officials, private donors, and volunteers, Arlington Thrive is an example of a public-private partnership that successfully meets a community need; and

WHEREAS, Arlington Thrive's programs are critical to Arlington's 10-Year Plan to End Homelessness; the program is one of the first lines of defense against homelessness, using financial assistance payments to Arlington households to fill critical needs; and

WHEREAS, Arlington Thrive has assisted families with medical, dental, and prescription bill payments; and

WHEREAS, Arlington Thrive has provided emergency rental assistance to prevent eviction and has helped residents pay utility bills to keep their water running and their electricity and heat on; and

WHEREAS, Arlington Thrive supports those who are seeking employment by providing funds for transportation, clothing, and equipment required to start a job; and

WHEREAS, during 1975, the program's first year in operation, Arlington Thrive helped 168 households with \$10,423 of direct emergency assistance; during fiscal year 2015, Arlington Thrive assisted 1,472 households (2,698 persons) with \$730,000 of direct emergency assistance; and

WHEREAS, on November 18, 2015, Arlington Thrive commemorated the 40th anniversary of its founding and celebrated its mission to provide a financial safety net to Arlington residents in need; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Arlington Thrive 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 Arlington Thrive as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the organization's tireless work to strengthen and enhance the Arlington community.

INTRODUCED

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