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HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 68

Offered February 28, 2022

Commending Mobile Hope of Loudoun.

Patron—Gooditis

WHEREAS, Mobile Hope of Loudoun, a nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting and empowering homeless and at-risk youth in Loudoun County, has greatly served the community for the past 10 years; and

WHEREAS, in response to the concerning number of homeless or at-risk youth residing in Loudoun County, the precursor to Mobile Hope of Loudoun was established in 2011 as a special project at Inova Loudoun Hospital, creating a lifeline for this imperiled group; and

WHEREAS, Mobile Hope of Loudoun became an independent 501(c)(3) organization in 2012 and redoubled its efforts to provide housing services and other assistance to homeless or at-risk individuals in Loudoun County who are up to 24 years old; and

WHEREAS, Mobile Hope of Loudoun lends its support services to incarcerated youth who are at risk of homelessness upon their release by providing them with resources needed to find employment;

WHEREAS, while schools were closed during the COVID-19 pandemic, Mobile Hope of Loudoun made frequent deliveries of food, diapers, and clothing to the neighborhoods most adversely affected, reaching more than 135,000 people; and

WHEREAS, Mobile Hope of Loudoun's recent "Christmas Village" toy drive brightened the holidays for more than 2,000 children and their families; and

WHEREAS, in 2022, Mobile Hope of Loudoun launched "Trade Up," a trade school program currently housed on Parker Court in Leesburg that is funded in part by a \$75,000 grant from Google; and

WHEREAS, the "Trade Up" school will offer educational opportunities for an estimated 25 homeless or at-risk youth at a time, enabling them to acquire the skills necessary for gainful employment in the fields of carpentry, construction, information technology, and welding; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That Mobile Hope of Loudoun hereby be commended for its 10 years of service to vulnerable members of the Loudoun County community; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Donna Fortier, founder and executive director of Mobile Hope of Loudoun, as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for the organization's vital work in support of young people currently or at risk of experiencing homelessness.