

2023 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 459

Offered February 23, 2023

Commending THRIVE Peninsula.

Patrons—Price and Mullin

WHEREAS, THRIVE Peninsula, a nonprofit in the Virginia Peninsula dedicated to encouraging, educating, and empowering individuals and families in need toward transformed and self-sustaining lives, celebrates its 50th anniversary in 2023; and

WHEREAS, THRIVE, formerly Denbigh United Christian Outreach, was formed in 1973 by members of churches in the Denbigh neighborhood of Newport News who united to help families in need; working out of their homes, volunteers provided counsel, aid, and resource referrals to their local community; and

WHEREAS, today, THRIVE serves more than 18,000 people annually who are facing hardships in Newport News, Hampton, and York County, partnering with 80 churches and hundreds of donors, foundations, and businesses; and

WHEREAS, THRIVE has expanded its services to offer emergency financial assistance to keep families stably housed and employed, one-on-one financial coaching services, and a robust on-site food pantry with produce, dairy, meats, and more; and

WHEREAS, using its team of 100 weekly volunteers, THRIVE distributes over \$1 million in aid back to the community annually, providing a vital safety net that has helped an untold number of individuals and families overcome crises and achieve financial stability; and

WHEREAS, in every aspect of their work, THRIVE's volunteers focus on providing services in a way that is dignifying and accessible, incorporating an ongoing feedback loop with the families they serve; and

WHEREAS, for its 50th year anniversary in 2023, THRIVE will open The Market at THRIVE, a free food grocery store, targeting food insecure families who, due to stigma, would never visit a food pantry; The Market will also house THRIVE's other services to facilitate a multifaceted approach to supporting struggling families; and

WHEREAS, it is expected that by 2025, the organization will be serving 30,000 people annually in its new space, making an impact that will resonate throughout the Virginia Peninsula community for many years to come; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That THRIVE Peninsula hereby be commended on the occasion of its 50th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to THRIVE Peninsula as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for the organization's history and its contributions to the Commonwealth.

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