

**SANTA FE COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

RESOLUTION NO. 2024 - 099

Introduced by: Commissioner Anna Hamilton and Commissioner Anna Hansen

**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE THIRTEENTH ANNUAL NEIGHBOR TO
NEIGHBOR FUND DRIVE IN COORDINATION WITH THE FOOD DEPOT**

WHEREAS, New Mexico consistently ranks as one of the worst states for food insecurity with 17,000 food-insecure people in Santa Fe County (County) alone, more than 5,000 of which are children; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners (Board) recognizes the importance of food security in the County; and

WHEREAS, increasing consumption of healthy food is a priority in the *Santa Fe County Health Action Plan*; and

WHEREAS, the County's Community Services Department operates the CONNECT program, an accountable health community, with the vision that all County residents, regardless of income, have access to high-quality health care and are linked to resources they need for health and well-being, including nutritious food; and

WHEREAS, the County is currently working with its partners to expand access to healthy food to all individuals; and

WHEREAS, public and private partnerships can assist in meeting the food needs of those seeking food assistance in the County and it is the mission of The Food Depot to create healthy, hunger-free communities in Northern New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, The Food Depot fulfills this goal by serving as the food bank for nine northern New Mexico counties and providing innovative hunger-relief programming and resources to more than 70 nonprofit agencies including emergency food pantries, meal programs, shelters, youth programs, and senior centers; and

WHEREAS, the Neighborhood Association Neighbor to Neighbor Fund Drive was created 13 years ago with the sole purpose of bringing together neighborhoods across Santa Fe to stand together in unison to support the mission of The Food Depot; and

WHEREAS, since 2011, neighborhoods in the Santa Fe area have participated in donating to The Food Depot through an area-wide Neighborhood Association Neighbor to Neighbor Fund Drive, organized every September during national Hunger Action Month. This effort has grown exponentially and is now the largest fundraiser benefiting The Food Depot; and

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WHEREAS, in 2023, this grassroots effort grew to include participation of 160 neighborhoods and businesses and raised over \$397,430; and

WHEREAS, on June 6, 2024, Neighbor to Neighbor launched with a \$50,000 match, ensuring that every donation is matched dollar for dollar; and

WHEREAS, on June 27, 2024, The Food Depot was honored by The Chamber of Commerce as the Best Nonprofit; and

WHEREAS, this year, four businesses—TechSource, Bell Rock Consulting, Café Pasqual's, and Santa Fe By Design—have generously sponsored Neighbor to Neighbor; and

WHEREAS, the Board adopted Resolution Nos. 2022-61, 2021-65, 2020-62, 2019-104, 2018-47, 2017-84 in support of the Neighbor to Neighbor Fund Drive in coordination with the City of Santa Fe; and

WHEREAS, The Food Depot has stated that with every donated dollar, it can provide up to four meals for individuals who are food insecure; and

WHEREAS, the Board is more committed than ever to support this important event and ensure that the many constituents who benefit from this event continue to do so especially during this time of great need; and

WHEREAS, the Board desires that the County use its resources to promote the Neighbor to Neighbor Fund Drive to ensure that County employees, neighborhoods, and communities are aware of and know how to support the Neighbor to Neighbor Fund Drive; and

WHEREAS, all monetary donations should be accompanied by an indication of whether the donation is from a specific community, neighborhood, business, or from a County or City employee, and should be sent by the deadline of September 23, 2024, to ensure inclusion in the Neighbor to Neighbor Fund Drive.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Santa Fe County Board of County Commissioners as follows:

1. The Board supports and encourages monetary donations for the thirtieth annual Neighbor to Neighbor Fund Drive.
2. The Board authorizes the County Manager and staff to:
 - a. Encourage participation in the Neighbor to Neighbor Fund Drive as one means of addressing food insecurity in our community; and
 - b. Inform communities, neighborhoods, and Homeowners Associations throughout the County that they can make monetary contributions to the Neighbor to Neighbor Fund Drive before the deadline of September 23, 2024, by credit card donation at the Neighbor to Neighbor website <http://thefooddepot.org/n2n> or by mailing a check to: The Food Depot, N2N

Fund Drive, 122-A Siler Road, Santa Fe, NM 87507;

- c. Work cooperatively with the City of Santa Fe to alleviate hunger in the County; and
- d. Advertise the Neighbor to Neighbor Fund Drive on Santa Fe County website and ask Commissioners to send out the information on their the newsletters.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED ON THIS 13th DAY OF AUGUST, 2024.

**THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF SANTA FE COUNTY**

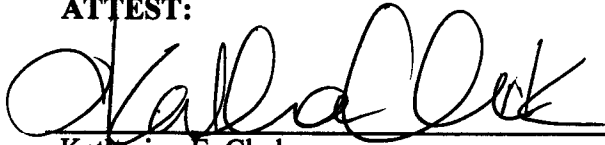


 Hank Hughes, Chair



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ATTEST:



 Katharine E. Clark
 Santa Fe County Clerk

Date: 08/13/2024

Approved as to form:




 Jeff Young
 Santa Fe County Attorney

COUNTY OF SANTA FE)
 STATE OF NEW MEXICO) ss

BCC RESOLUTIONS
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I Hereby Certify That This Instrument Was Filed for
 Record On The 14TH Day Of August, 2024 at 12:56:03 PM
 And Was Duly Recorded as Instrument # 2039628
 Of The Records Of Santa Fe County



Witness My Hand And Seal Of Office
 Katharine E. Clark
 Deputy  County Clerk, Santa Fe, NM