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**CITY OF SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2023-30**

**INTRODUCED BY:**

Councilor Jamie Cassutt

Councilwoman Renee Villarreal

**A RESOLUTION**

**SUPPORTING THE NEIGHBOR-TO-NEIGHBOR FUND DRIVE 2023.**

**WHEREAS**, according to Feeding America, the largest hunger-relief organization in the United States, New Mexico has one of the lowest rankings for food security in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, Feeding America’s regularly conducted study entitled “Map the Meal Gap,” found that as of 2021, in the state of New Mexico, over 285,220 people seek food assistance annually, and 90,490 of them are children; and

**WHEREAS**, additionally, according to Feeding America’s 2021 data from Map the Meal Gap, over 15,420 people experience food insecurity in Santa Fe County; and

**WHEREAS**, The Food Depot describes its vision is “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 food to more than 145 nonprofit agencies, including emergency food pantries, hot meal programs, homeless shelters, youth programs, senior centers,

1 homes for the mentally disabled, and shelters for battered persons; and

2       **WHEREAS**, in 2022, The Food Depot and its partner agencies distributed 10 million  
3 pounds of food across northern New Mexico, providing 700,000 meals each month; and

4       **WHEREAS**, more than just feeding people, The Food Depot describes itself as trying to  
5 help people change their lives; and

6       **WHEREAS**, every September since 2012, the neighborhoods in the Santa Fe area have  
7 participated in donating food to The Food Depot through an area-wide neighborhood and business  
8 Neighbor to Neighbor Fund Drive, in conjunction with national Hunger Action Month; and

9       **WHEREAS**, the Neighbor to Neighbor Fund Drive has grown exponentially over the last  
10 twelve years; and

11       **WHEREAS**, The Food Depot raised nearly \$294,000 in its Neighbor to Neighbor Fund  
12 Drive 2022; and

13       **WHEREAS**, in 2021 the Santa Fe community raised \$201,428.99, equal to over 1 million  
14 pounds of food, or 805,716 meals for those in need; and

15       **WHEREAS**, in 2020 the Santa Fe community raised \$170,979, equal to 854,895 pounds  
16 of food, or 712,412 meals for those in need; and

17       **WHEREAS**, the success of the fund drives in 2020 through 2022 illustrates the importance  
18 of the Neighbor –to Neighbor Fund Drive in accomplishing the mission of The Food Depot; and

19       **WHEREAS**, the Neighbor to Neighbor Fund Drive 2023 has the goal of raising \$300,000  
20 and will benefit The Food Depot with the donations raised by Santa Fe area neighborhoods,  
21 businesses, and communities, and it will culminate on Saturday, September 23, 2023; and

22       **WHEREAS**, the success of the Neighbor to Neighbor Fund Drive over the preceding  
23 twelve years is evidence that it is well-situated to be an annual event in which neighborhoods and  
24 businesses across the City look forward to participating each year, with the encouragement and  
25 support of the City and its elected officials.

1           **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF**  
2 **THE CITY OF SANTA FE** that the Governing Body supports and encourages the Neighbor to  
3 Neighbor Fund Drive 2023's effort benefitting The Food Depot, which runs until September 23,  
4 2023.

5           PASSED, APPROVED, and ADOPTED this 26<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2023.

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9           ALAN WEBBER, MAYOR

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11 ATTEST:

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14           KRISTINE MIHELIC, CITY CLERK

15 APPROVED AS TO FORM:

16   
17 [Erin McSherry \(Jul 27, 2023 11:00 MDT\)](#)

18           ERIN K. McSHERRY, CITY ATTORNEY

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25           *Legislation/2023/Resolutions/2023-30 R Supporting Neighbor-to-Neighbor Food Drive*