

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 3

WHEREAS, Resource Center is celebrating its 40th anniversary in 2023, and this milestone offers a welcome opportunity to recognize its enduring service to the North Texas LGBTQIA+ community and all people affected by HIV; and

WHEREAS, Established in 1983 as the Foundation for Human Understanding, the organization's initial goal was achieving recognition and equal rights for members of the area's gay and lesbian community; the onset of the HIV/AIDS epidemic in 1985 brought a new level of urgency, and the group rose to the challenge by creating the AIDS Resource Center to raise awareness and to offer preventive education, legal services, emergency funding, and essentials such as food and clothing; and

WHEREAS, The center launched the Nelson-Tebedo Health Clinic in 1988 to deliver HIV testing, treatment, and clinical drug trials; in the wake of a fire the following year, the clinic and food pantry remained on Cedar Springs Road, while the rest of the organization moved into the former Metropolitan Community Church site on Reagan Street; the Foundation for Human Understanding changed its name to Resource Center of Dallas in 1998 and adopted its present name in 2013; and

WHEREAS, Today, as a United Way agency, Resource Center operates the John Thomas LGBT Community Center, named in honor of its first executive director, and a Health Campus providing nutritional services, including a food pantry and hot meals, as well as HIV case management and insurance assistance; the center is a leader in HIV/AIDS education and services and provides a full spectrum of STI screenings, treatments, and prevention information; in addition, the center connects clients with behavioral, dental, and mental health care; among its numerous

initiatives are GenderBrave, Grupo Orgullo Hispano, Fuse, THRIVE, United Black Ellument, Women with Pride, and Youth First; moreover, the center recently broke ground on Oak Lawn Place, an 84-unit senior housing development; and

WHEREAS, One of the nation's largest LGBTQIA+ community organizations, Resource Center has a staff of more than 70 members, assisted by over 1,200 volunteers; more than 62,000 people benefit from its programs annually; and

WHEREAS, Over the past four decades, Resource Center has improved the lives of countless North Texas residents, thereby strengthening families and communities, and it is sure to remain an essential resource in the years ahead; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 88th Legislature, hereby congratulate Resource Center on its 40th anniversary and extend to all those associated with the organization sincere best wishes for the future; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this Resolution be prepared for the center as an expression of high regard from the Texas Senate.

Johnson, West

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on June 6, 2023.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate

Member, Texas Senate