

By: Johnson, West

S.R. No. 3

R E S O L U T I O N

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

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

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

21 WHEREAS, Today, as a United Way agency, Resource Center
22 operates the John Thomas LGBT Community Center, named in honor of
23 its first executive director, and a Health Campus providing
24 nutritional services, including a food pantry and hot meals, as

1 well as HIV case management and insurance assistance; the center is
2 a leader in HIV/AIDS education and services and provides a full
3 spectrum of STI screenings, treatments, and prevention
4 information; in addition, the center connects clients with
5 behavioral, dental, and mental health care; among its numerous
6 initiatives are GenderBrave, Grupo Orgullo Hispano, Fuse, THRIVE,
7 United Black Ellument, Women with Pride, and Youth First; moreover,
8 the center recently broke ground on Oak Lawn Place, an 84-unit
9 senior housing development; and

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

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

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

22 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
23 prepared for the center as an expression of high regard by the Texas
24 Senate.