

HONORING THE BERGEN VOLUNTEER CENTER ON ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

WHEREAS, the Bergen Volunteer Center was founded in 1966 to meet community needs through the power of volunteers. Its direct service programs organize volunteers to provide invaluable support to some of Bergen County's most vulnerable citizens. The Mentoring Youth program has recruited, trained and supervised volunteer mentors for children who have been abused or neglected; since 1978 Mentoring Youth has provided a trusted mentor to more than 3,700 children. The Mentoring Moms program recruits, trains and supervises mentors for mothers whose children are at-risk for abuse or neglect; since 1995 more than 500 mothers have been matched with a mentor. The Chore Service provides home safety repairs for senior citizens and the disabled free of charge through the volunteer efforts of senior citizens. The Business Volunteer Council organizes corporations to help eliminate hunger and illiteracy; and

WHEREAS, the Bergen Volunteer Center ensures that Bergen County has a pipeline of committed, civic leaders through its training programs: Bergen LEADS for adults and Teen LEADS and Ready-Set-Serve for young people. They also strengthen the nonprofit community by maintaining a database of volunteer opportunities, providing volunteer managers' training and the Expert Exchange workshops and webinars; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Rochelle Park has benefitted from the efforts of the Bergen Volunteer Center since 2010 in the following ways:

- 51 residents received safety repairs from the Chore Service
- 1 child received a mentor
- 3 mothers received a mentor
- 2 residents participated in Bergen LEADS; and

WHEREAS, residents of Township of Rochelle Park have supported the Bergen Volunteer Center since 2010 in the following ways:

- 2 served as Mentoring Youth mentors
- 3 served as Mentoring Moms mentors
- 40 supported the Bergen Volunteer Center with their philanthropy; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Committee of the Township of Rochelle Park, County of Bergen, hereby honors the Bergen Volunteer Center for its 50 years of turning caring into action and knowing that the Bergen Volunteer Center is not getting old, it is just getting started.

MICHAEL KAZIMIR, Mayor