

SENATE RESOLUTION

8626

By Senators Padden, Billig, Holy, Schoesler, Short, Brown, and Wilson, L.

1       WHEREAS, Greater Spokane County Meals on Wheels was founded in  
2 the basement of the Spokane Valley United Methodist Church in 1972,  
3 to fight hunger and social isolation among vulnerable adults in the  
4 region; and

5       WHEREAS, The daily works performed by the organization's  
6 director, Marta Harrington; assistant director, Mark Laskowski; board  
7 of directors; staff; and volunteers prevent vulnerable adults in the  
8 community from going hungry; and

9       WHEREAS, Their team provides the only home delivery meal program  
10 that serves all of Spokane County, from Elk and Deer Park on the  
11 north to Rockford and Fairfield on the south, Liberty Lake on the  
12 east and Medical Lake on the west; and

13       WHEREAS, Staff and volunteers prepare more than 1,000 fresh-made  
14 meals a day, Monday through Friday, served at 12 locations where  
15 patrons can enjoy their meals with peers and friends, and delivered  
16 to homes between the hours of 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.; and

17       WHEREAS, Each meal served fulfills a third of the daily nutrition  
18 and calorie requirements, and allows vulnerable adults to remain  
19 living independently while supplementing their lives with social  
20 contact; and

21       WHEREAS, The organization's collective efforts span 45 delivery  
22 routes across all 1,281 square miles of Spokane County, serving over  
23 250,000 meals annually and providing a lifeline that connects

1 vulnerable adults to necessary resources and offers them peace  
2 of mind; and

3 WHEREAS, The organization's strength has been its volunteers  
4 and organizers, from cofounder Norma Trefry, who guided its  
5 growth from a small church-based organization, to Pam Almeida,  
6 who served as executive director for 19 years, under whose  
7 leadership the program further grew and prospered; and

8 WHEREAS, Not a single delivery was missed during the  
9 snowstorms of the last month; and

10 WHEREAS, The Greater Spokane County Meals on Wheels further  
11 advocates for vulnerable adults through their annual Champions  
12 Week event during the national March for Meals awareness month  
13 to advance the efforts and resources impacting their community;

14 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State  
15 Senate honor the Greater Spokane County Meals on Wheels  
16 director, Marta Harrington; assistant director, Mark Laskowski;  
17 board of directors; staff; and volunteers, for their  
18 extraordinary efforts and their devotion to the vulnerable  
19 adults of Spokane County; and

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
21 immediately transmitted by the Secretary of the Senate to Marta  
22 Harrington, Mark Laskowski, and the Greater Spokane County Meals  
23 on Wheels board of directors, staff, and volunteers.

24 I, Brad Hendrickson, Secretary of the Senate,  
25 do hereby certify that this is a true and  
26 correct copy of Senate Resolution 8626,  
27 adopted by the Senate  
28 March 11, 2019

29 BRAD HENDRICKSON  
30 Secretary of the Senate