

For Recording Stamp Only

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
DESCHUTES COUNTY, OREGON**

A Proclamation Declaring March 2023 to be American Red Cross Month

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, in times of crisis, people in Deschutes County come together to care for one another. This humanitarian spirit is part of the foundation of our community and is exemplified by American Red Cross Cascades Region volunteers and donors; and

WHEREAS, In 1881, Clara Barton founded the American Red Cross, turning her steadfast dedication for helping others into a bold mission of preventing and alleviating people's suffering. Today, we honor the kindness and generosity of Red Cross volunteers here in Deschutes County and the Cascades Region, who join the millions of people across the United States who volunteer, give blood, donate financially, or learn vital life-preserving skills through the Red Cross; and

WHEREAS, In the Cascades Region, serving Oregon and SW Washington, the contributions of more than 2,500 local Red Cross volunteers give hope to the most vulnerable in their darkest hours. The Red Cross does so by providing more than 1,600 emergency overnight shelter stays, along with food and comfort for families devastated by more than 800 local disasters, like home fires. Through the generosity of those donating more than 182,000 units of essential blood for accident and burn victims, heart surgery and organ transplant patients, and those receiving treatment for leukemia, cancer, or sickle cell disease. Or by supporting service members and veterans an average of nine times a day, along with their families and caregivers through the unique challenges of military life. And by helping to save the lives of others with first aid, CPR, and other skills; or delivering international humanitarian aid; and

WHEREAS, In Deschutes County, the Red Cross works with local agencies and faith-based organizations to support emergency shelters by providing shelter training, coordinating resources, and integrating into local mass care planning efforts; and

WHEREAS, the work of the Red Cross to prevent and alleviate human suffering is vital to strengthening community resilience before, during and after a disaster;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Deschutes County Board of Commissioners proclaims the month of March as AMERICAN RED CROSS MONTH in Deschutes County and recognizes all who continue to advance the noble legacy of American Red Cross founder Clara Barton, who lived by her words, "You must never think of anything except the need, and how to meet it."

DATED this 8th Day of March, 2023 by the Deschutes County Board of Commissioners.

ANTHONY DeBONE, Chair

PATTI ADAIR, Vice Chair

PHIL CHANG, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Recording Secretary