

Proclamation

WHEREAS, In times of crisis, people in Vancouver 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, more than 140 years later, we honor the kindness and generosity of Red Cross volunteers here in Vancouver, who continue to carry out Clara's lifesaving legacy. They 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 SW Washington and Oregon, 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 600 emergency overnight shelter stays, along with food and comfort for families devastated by nearly 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, Their work to prevent and alleviate human suffering is vital to strengthening our community's resilience. We dedicate this month of March to all those 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." We ask others to join in this commitment to give back in our community.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Anne McEnery-Ogle, Mayor of Vancouver, do hereby proclaim March 2023 as:

"Red Cross Month"

in the City of Vancouver and encourage the community to reach out and support its humanitarian mission.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and cause the seal of the City of Vancouver to be affixed this 6th day of March, 2023.


ANNE McENERY-OGLE, MAYOR