

BY ALDS. COGGS, LEWIS, HAMILTON, DODD, SPIKER, PEREZ, BORKOWSKI, JOHNSON, STAMPER, RAINEY

Resolution recognizing Rosemary Holley on her dedicated work to help improve conditions in the community for those struggling with poverty.

WHEREAS,

ROSEMARY HOLLEY

worked selflessly for the good of those struggling under the weight of poverty during a lengthy and distinguished career of service; and

WHEREAS, *One of 11 children, Rosemary Holley was born in 1926 and raised in Milwaukee, and lived with her family near N. 10th St. and W. Highland Ave., and her father worked at International Harvester and her mother worked at home; raised Roman Catholic, she attended the old St. Benedict the Moor Catholic Grade School, and later went to Siefert and Roosevelt schools, and graduated from Lincoln High School in 1943; and*

WHEREAS, *In 1943 (at 17), Rosemary married Benjamin Harrison Holley, her high school sweetheart, and their union would be blessed with 14 children; and*

WHEREAS, *The community has always been important to Rosemary, who spent the better part of her life working and advocating for low-income families (she considered herself “one of them” - knowing first-hand what it took to survive - she earned the community’s respect), and once said: “I like people, I like to be active, I like to be doing for people. If I can’t do you no good, I’m sure not going to do you no harm”;* and

WHEREAS, *Rosemary Holley forged a legacy of commitment to community service that spanned over 50 years, serving as a Head Start parent and volunteer, a staff member at the Social Development Commission and a community advocate for various organizations including the Harambee Ombudsman Project, Inc., Milwaukee Health Services Inc., Francis Community School and St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church; and*

WHEREAS, *As the grand matriarch of a family of 14 children, 25 grandchildren, 31 great-grandchildren, and three great-great-grandchildren, Rosemary Holley embodies the best of Milwaukee’s ‘can do in a humble way’ civic spirit; now, therefore, be it*

RESOLVED, *That the Common Council of the City of Milwaukee herewith recognizes Rosemary Holley for her dedicated life’s work to help improve conditions in the community for those struggling with poverty, thanks her for her positive and trailblazing efforts, and extends to her its sincere wishes for her continued health and happiness; and, be it*

FURTHER RESOLVED, *That a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution be presented to Rosemary Holley, an outstanding citizen.*

Introduced by Common Council members Milele A. Coggs, Chantia Lewis, Ashanti Hamilton, José G. Pérez, Mark A. Borkowski, Cavalier Johnson, Russell W. Stamper, II, Scott Spiker and Khalif J. Rainey and approved by all members of the Milwaukee Common Council on December 14, 2021.