

DeKalb County Government

Proclamation

P2024-01

– 50th Anniversary of Voluntary Action Center –

WHEREAS, Voluntary Action Center (VAC) incorporated in 1974 as a volunteer clearinghouse with a mission of matching volunteers to needs in the community. After becoming aware of a lack of access to services in the community for seniors and persons with disabilities, VAC began providing door-to-door transportation services with one van and several volunteer drivers. VAC provided 7,111 rides in that first year of operation; and

WHEREAS, in 1986, DeKalb County Government awarded VAC a grant from the Illinois Department of Transportation to build a transportation facility, which was completed in 1988. Meanwhile, the F.O.O.D/Meals on Wheels agency joined VAC in 1987, to help improve coordination among senior providers in the county; and

WHEREAS, in 1991, VAC's Community Kitchen began operations. This increased efficiency in the operation allowed for expansion in other areas, including food service operations for area child daycare centers, adult day care centers, and the County Jail.; and

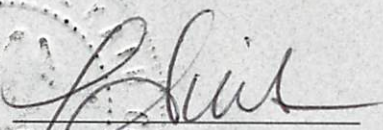
WHEREAS, Voluntary Action Center continues to have a positive impact on DeKalb County and its residents as demonstrated by:

- Providing 58,468 rides in 2023 to senior citizens, persons with disabilities, and the general public to and from community facilities and resources for purposes of acquiring and receiving services, participating in activities, or attending events to reduce isolation and promote successful independent living.
- With the help of 1,200 volunteers, provided 74,709 meals last year through Meals on Wheels to individuals that are homebound because of illness, physical or mental impairment, or are otherwise isolated.
- Providing 11,576 meals in 2023 to centrally located and accessible congregate meal sites to promote better health and reduce isolation.

LET IT BE PROCLAIMED, that the DeKalb County Board of DeKalb County, Illinois does hereby honor and congratulate the Voluntary Action Center of Northern Illinois on the celebration of their fiftieth anniversary, applaud their ongoing legacy of integrity and commitment to providing high-quality services that address the basic transportation and nutrition needs of its community, and wish them much continued success in the future.

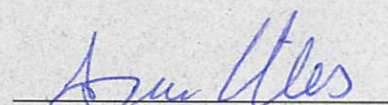
Given at Sycamore, Illinois, this 21st Day of February 2024.

ATTEST:


Tasha Sims
DeKalb County Clerk



SIGNED:


Suzanne Willis, Chair
DeKalb County Board