

In Recognition

Lutheran Community Services Northwest

WHEREAS, the Lutheran Compass Mission was founded in 1921 in Tacoma to serve “down-and-out” community members; and

WHEREAS, human suffering escalated during the Great Depression in the 1930s and during World War II in the 1940s, and they continued to help Tacoma’s vulnerable individuals and families, showing great compassion and welcoming the first refugees from war-torn Eastern Europe as new neighbors; and

WHEREAS, the organization inspired others in Portland, Spokane, the Tri-Cities, and Idaho in the coming decades to do similar work, culminating in the formation of a single organization, Lutheran Community Services Northwest, in 2001; and

WHEREAS, today in Tacoma, they offer a myriad of services, from helping immigrant and refugee families establish themselves in our City and pursue the American Dream, to providing support for isolated seniors and educating the community on dementia; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 has been hard on everyone, but especially our most isolated community members, which sadly, often includes seniors who have dedicated their lives to our community; and

WHEREAS, Lutheran Community Services Northwest has shown immense compassion during this time of hardship, offering art classes for people with dementia, food deliveries to neighbors in need, and a Senior Friends program; and

WHEREAS, because loneliness is one of the most difficult of human emotions, and friendship is one of our most basic needs, building these friendships between younger generations and elders is true compassion in action; and

WHEREAS, this year, Lutheran Community Services Northwest is celebrating 100 years of health, justice, and hope;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, VICTORIA R. WOODARDS, Mayor of the City of Tacoma, on behalf of the City Council, do hereby recognize the 100th anniversary of Lutheran Community Services Northwest and the many ways that they - in serving our community - demonstrate how, together, we are Compassionate Tacoma.

Dated this 11th day of May, 2021

Victoria R. Woodards

Victoria R. Woodards, Mayor

