



IN HONOR OF HELPBERKELEY

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has made food insecurity a reality for many residents who have been impacted financially or unable to travel to grocery stores, and has impacted businesses such as restaurants which have seen dramatically lower revenues; and

WHEREAS, HelpBerkeley, founded in March 2020, has worked to bridge the gaps that have prevented access to food by creating a team of volunteers and donors to provide subsidized food to Berkeley, Albany, and Kensington residents while partnering with local restaurants, providing over 20,000 meals in 2020 with the help of over 20 restaurants, 300 volunteers and 450 donors;

WHEREAS, during the 2020 holiday season, HelpBerkeley provided over 1,000 free meals, and in 2021 launched a new program to provide free food to those most in need; and

WHEREAS, co-founder and CEO Michel Thouati was recently recognized with the Jefferson Award for Public Service, which highlighted HelpBerkeley's selfless support for neighbors in need during unprecedented times; and

WHEREAS, HelpBerkeley exemplifies Berkeley's values and has been an important lifeline for hundreds of residents who otherwise would not have access to a warm meal, and is a shining example of bringing out the best of people in times of need.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Jesse Arreguin, Mayor of the City of Berkeley, do hereby recognize and thank

HELPBERKELEY

for their compassionate contributions and services in supporting vulnerable members of Berkeley's community.

Jesse Arreguin
Mayor



February 23, 2021