

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

23-1

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

January 8, 2019

To honor and recognize the DC Central Kitchen on its 30th anniversary and to declare January 20, 2019, as “DC Central Kitchen Day” in the District of Columbia.

WHEREAS, DC Central Kitchen was founded in 1989 by Robert Egger with the belief that food alone would never end hunger, but that food could be a powerful tool for strengthening bodies, empowering minds, and building communities;

WHEREAS, DC Central Kitchen’s Culinary Job Training Program has empowered residents with histories of homelessness, addiction, incarceration, trauma, and chronic unemployment to pursue meaningful careers in our community with an 87% job placement rate;

WHEREAS, 1,800 men and women enrolled in 135 classes have graduated from the Culinary Job Training Program;

WHEREAS, DC Central Kitchen has prevented the waste of 32 million pounds of perfectly safe, nutritious food and creatively transformed it into balanced meals for our community;

WHEREAS, DC Central Kitchen has prepared 36 million nutritious, dignified meals for District of Columbia shelters, front-line nonprofits, and schools;

WHEREAS, DC Central Kitchen has never missed a day of meal service in its 10,957 days of continuous operation;

WHEREAS, DC Central Kitchen has served 6.7 million scratch-cooked, locally sourced meals to District schools since 2008, winning the nationally coveted Golden Carrot Award in 2015;

WHEREAS, DC Central Kitchen’s Healthy Corners program has equipped more than 60 small businesses in neighborhoods without easy access to grocery stores to stock and sell nearly one million units of fresh, nutritious, affordable food to District residents;

ENROLLED ORIGINAL

WHEREAS, DC Central Kitchen models the values of a mission-driven social enterprise by paying all employees a living wage, providing them with comprehensive health, retirement, and paid leave benefits, and sustainably earning more than half its annual budget through food-service contracts;

WHEREAS, DC Central Kitchen's Campus Kitchens Project has helped student leaders replicate our model on 65 college and high school campuses, including 2 in the District of Columbia, prevented the waste of another 8 million pounds of nutritious food, and collectively served 3.3 million meals to food-insecure Americans;

WHEREAS, the success of DC Central Kitchen's model has inspired the launch of more than 80 like-minded culinary training programs and social enterprises across the United States;

WHEREAS, DC Central Kitchen now creates \$67 million of measurable economic and social returns in the District of Columbia each year;

WHEREAS, DC Central Kitchen's successes have been recognized by *The Atlantic*, *The Chronicle of Philanthropy*, *CNN*, *MSNBC*, *National Geographic*, *National Public Radio*, *Newsweek*, *The New York Times*, *PBS NewsHour*, *Nightline*, *No Reservations*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Washington Post*, and the documentary *The Liberation*; and

WHEREAS, DC Central Kitchen is celebrating its 30th anniversary in 2019.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the "DC Central Kitchen 30th Anniversary Recognition Resolution of 2019".

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia recognizes and honors DC Central Kitchen for its 30 years of outstanding service to the District of Columbia and its residents and its efforts to strengthen our economy, broaden prosperity, and defeat hunger and poverty in the metropolitan area, and declares January 20, 2019, as "DC Central Kitchen Day" in the District of Columbia.

Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of publication in the District of Columbia Register.