

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 572

By Massey

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend the Helen Ross McNabb Center on the occasion of its seventy-fifth anniversary.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly take great pleasure in recognizing those organizations that are pillars in their communities, providing vital healthcare services that benefit the citizens of this State; and

WHEREAS, for seventy-five years, the Helen Ross McNabb Center has provided comprehensive community mental health services to more than thirty counties in East Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, due to the efforts of Helen Ross McNabb, the Center was founded in 1948 and has grown from being one of the first community behavioral clinics for children in the State to a regional organization that offers unique programs and facilities and serves more than 43,000 children, adults, and families annually as East Tennessee's premier provider of behavioral health services; and

WHEREAS, since its inception, the Center has consistently expanded the threshold of care and services to meet the growing needs of behavioral health care in the community, providing mental health services, addiction treatment, social services, and victim services to children, families, and adults alike; and

WHEREAS, the Helen Ross McNabb Center offers early childhood intervention and prevention services, including the only two therapeutic preschools in the State, providing children who have been or are at risk of being traumatized, abused, or neglected, with a safe space in which to process their emotions and learn coping skills; and

WHEREAS, the Center also operates a one-of-a-kind children's crisis stabilization unit, the Children's Crisis Continuum, which was recently recognized with the Tennessee Association of Mental Health Organization's Innovation and Creativity Award; and

WHEREAS, Hamblen County Mayor Bill Brittain helped plan and implement the Center's Hamblen County Women's Jail to Work program to improve jail overcrowding issues and the need for substance abuse treatment; the Center continued operating as an essential healthcare provider throughout the COVID-19 pandemic and expanded its services to include telehealth, and it also operates a mobile clinic to integrate accessible health care in rural counties; and

WHEREAS, under the astute leadership of president and CEO Mona Blanton-Kitts, this exemplary organization benefits from the experience and wisdom of the members of its Center Board of Directors and Foundation Board of Directors, which provide direction to a network of dedicated staff, professionals, and volunteers who proudly support the Helen Ross McNabb Center and its mission of improving lives; and

WHEREAS, for seventy-five years, the Helen Ross McNabb Center has remained a leading provider of mental health services and played an invaluable role in the lives of children, adults, and families throughout the region, and it is appropriate that we recognize this stalwart organization on this momentous occasion; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor and commend the Helen Ross McNabb Center on the occasion of its seventy-fifth anniversary and extend our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to

the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.