



Proclamation

*On a motion from Chairman Dan Tripp
Members of Greenville County Council wish to recognize*

Senior Action Greenville on their 55th Anniversary

Whereas, Fifty-five years ago, a coalition was built that included five different denominations of churches in downtown Greenville, the City of Greenville, and Greenville County. This coalition recognized the need to provide services for seniors beyond what any single member of the coalition was able to provide. From that group, Senior Action was born and many new services for seniors were developed; and

Whereas, Just eight short years later, the group also realized that seniors in Greenville needed a “place” to provide a sense of identity and stability, and the first senior center was built off McBee Avenue in 1975; and

Whereas, Senior Action currently offers services to almost 5,000 people each year in eight locations throughout Greenville County. Their flagship location, a renovated shopping center, opened in 2021; it is a model program for redefining aging services and has received local, state, and national recognition. In addition to providing expanded services, the center serves as an innovative example of social entrepreneurship, with retail tenants helping to support the mission of the organization; and

Whereas, This new center includes a 462-seat conference center, fitness and group exercise facilities, and a one-of-a-kind Fine Arts Center that encourages original works in music, visual art, and movement for people over 55. Participants can enjoy educational classes, social opportunities, daily lunch, and connection with friends. Senior Action’s services extend far beyond the walls of its centers, with programs like medical transportation, lawn care assistance, home delivered meals (in partnership with Meals on Wheels), and affordable housing at its 48-unit independent living apartment complex; and

Whereas, Senior Action’s services change people’s lives, supporting seniors as well as their loved ones and caregivers; however, there is much more work to be done. Approximately 35% (or 189,000) of the County’s residents are over the age of 55, with the number of elderly citizens growing by 50% since 2010. Greenville County’s percentage of seniors is the highest in the State; and

Whereas, The challenges to care for this population are growing exponentially as is the cost to provide services. Social isolation is a devastating epidemic that leads to other health challenges. Greenville County Council is grateful and proud to recognize the vital work of Senior Action and its efforts to combat social isolation, increase health, and make this community a wonderful place to age.

Now Therefore, Greenville County Council does recognize the continued efforts of Senior Action and thanks them for their contribution to Greenville County residents over the past 55 years.

Signed this 6th day of June

Dan Tripp, Chairman
Greenville County Council