

A RESOLUTION TO HONOR MAE DERDARIAN FOR HER MANY YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE AND SUPPORT TO THE AREA AGENCY ON AGING 1-B

WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

November 19, 2008

WHEREAS, Mae Derdarian served as a member of the Board of Directors of the Area Agency on Aging 1-B (AAA 1-B) for 23 years, from 1985 until August, 2008, during which time she served as a staunch advocate for older adults, particularly those who were poor and disenfranchised; and

WHEREAS, Mae served as an officer of the AAA 1-B Board of Directors as 1st Vice Chair and 2nd Vice Chair for many years, providing leadership and setting policies that have assured good stewardship of public resources; and

WHEREAS, Mae served as chairperson of the AAA 1-B Personnel Committee, where she was dedicated to ensuring the establishment of fair personnel policies and practices that were in the best interest of not only the AAA 1-B, but its employees as well; and

WHEREAS, Mae was awarded the AAA 1-B 1993 Volunteer/Community Leadership Award in 1993, in recognition of her many contributions as a volunteer Board member and the counsel and guidance she offered to the organization; and

WHEREAS, Mae, an accomplished public relations professional, lent her considerable expertise in this area to the agency, including contributing to the development and presentation of many of the AAA 1-B's annual reports; and

WHEREAS, Mae served as Director of Public Relations and Education at the former United Community Services (UCS) from 1955 until her retirement in 1985, and during that time she advocated for UCS to become the sponsor applicant to create the AAA 1-B in 1974, and also supported the AAA 1-B's split from UCS in 1989 to become an independent 501 (c) (3) nonprofit; and

WHEREAS, Mae is effectively been considered the "Godmother" of the AAA 1-B because of her instrumental role in the formation and development of the AAA 1-B throughout its 34-year history;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Washtenaw County recognizes and honors Mae Derdarian for over 35 years of dedication, support, mentorship, good counsel, and compassionate leadership to the organization, on behalf of the hundreds of thousands of Region 1-B older adults that it has served.

Jeff Irwin, Chair
Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners

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