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Joint Board Matter with Chairman McKay, Supervisor Alcorn,
and Supervisor Smith
Celebrating the 50th Anniversary of The Women's Center

Members of the Board,

Founded in 1974, the Women's Center has become a leading nonprofit mental health and domestic violence service provider dedicated to enhancing the mental health and well-being of all community members through counseling, education, and support, regardless of the ability to pay. The Center is committed to ensuring that financial constraints never prevent anyone from accessing care, thus ensuring that everyone has access to resources that promote and protect health equity.

In FY 2022, the Center provided an impressive 35,111 hours of direct service to 3,344 individuals. These services included counseling, crisis intervention, group therapy, affordable financial education, wellness webinars, and mediation services.

One of the Women's Center's most notable achievements is its continued provision of mental health counseling on a sliding scale, with fees as low as \$5 per session, to approximately 1,000 low-income, uninsured, and underserved residents. Additionally, the Center offers free domestic violence services, including mental health services, to about 700 victims every year. Furthermore, the Center's Intern/Extern and Pre-licensed Therapist Program has contributed to increasing the number of mental health providers in our community, with approximately 15 professionals moving on to the next level of practice each year.

Over the past 50 years, the Women's Center has been dedicated to improving the emotional, psychological, and social well-being of our community. It has worked tirelessly to break the cycle of domestic violence and has established partnerships with other community-based safety-net providers to close the gaps that often exist

when individuals struggle to locate and access effective and affordable mental health services.

Therefore, I move that a proclamation be prepared in recognition of the 50th anniversary of The Women's Center and its invaluable service to the Fairfax County community, to be presented during the Center's open house in September.