

**SENSE OF THE BOARD RESOLUTION
CONGRATULATING THE STAMFORD VETERANS RESOURCE CENTER
ON ITS ONE-YEAR ANNIVERSARY**

WHEREAS, in response to years of advocacy from the veteran community for a resource center, and with the support of Mayor Simmons, her administration, local veteran affairs officers, our local and state representatives, members of the Stamford Police and Fire Departments, community advocates, and veteran organizations, the Stamford Veterans Resource Center opened its doors on February 15th, 2023 in Old Town Hall with the motto “One Team, One Dream, One Mission”; and

WHEREAS, the Stamford Veterans Resource Center is a place for military veterans and their families to be empowered, directed, and connected to available government resources, programs, and community support services, as well as the opportunity to engage with other veterans and community partners in Stamford; and

WHEREAS, the Stamford Veterans Resource Center connects military veterans to a wide range of services available to them, including free blood pressure screening; housing assistance; food assistance; medical assistance; COVID, flu, and RSV vaccines; transportation assistance; mental health services; basic hygiene and cold weather necessities; and workshops across all previous listed topics; and

WHEREAS, the Stamford Veterans Resource Center also provides military veterans with opportunities to socialize and find peer-to-peer support, whether through visiting them at the local senior residences or hosting veteran appreciation lunches for Memorial Day and Thanksgiving; or holding yoga and meditation classes; and

WHEREAS, the Stamford Veterans Resource Center is open every Tuesday and Thursday from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm, with Carmen Hughes as the Director, and Connie DeGruttola, Tom Finn, Reverend Winton Hill, Gloria Kelley, and Thomas Patterson as the Executive Board, and is staffed by volunteers from the American Legion and other veterans organizations, including Marc Brooks, Cesar Carde, Jim Dudley, Kieran Edmondson, Janis Hill, William Houston, Brian Iguaran, Patricia Parry, and Jenny Reinoso Castellano.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the 31st Board of Representatives congratulates the Stamford Veterans Resource Center on its one-year anniversary and thanks the Center for its service to the many military veterans of Stamford.

*Approved by the 31st Board of Representatives
this 5th day of February, 2024*

Jeff Curtis, President

Megan Cottrell, Clerk