

# CITY OF FRESNO

*Office of City Council Vice President Mike Karbassi*

**WHEREAS,** North Fresno Lions has worked actively with the youth of Fresno to promote patriotism and civic understanding through Flag Day events at local schools, provided scholarships and opportunities for high school students through their annual Student Speakers' Contests. They also promote volunteerism of youth by providing opportunities to work alongside Lions on local service projects. North Fresno Lions further serves youth by collecting and donating children's reading books to Reading Heart, and runs a program called Kases for Kids which collects, refurbishes, and distributes new and gently used suitcases to foster children so they don't have to transport their things in black trash bags; and

**WHEREAS,** North Fresno Lions has embraced the mission given to Lions International by Helen Keller to serve as Knights for the Blind by collecting thousands of used eyeglasses annually and distributing them worldwide through sight and medical missions. Locally, North Fresno Lions pays for school children and adults eye exams and needed eyeglasses when they cannot afford them. North Fresno Lions also sponsors needed eye surgeries and corneal implants through the Lions Eye Bank; and

**WHEREAS,** In the 2023-24 Lions year alone, North Fresno Lions have donated hundreds of service hours on 5 monthly ongoing service projects which include monthly food drives for the Amendola Family Student Pantry at Fresno State, collection of eyeglasses, hearing aids, children's reading books and suitcases, and school supplies for foster youth. This year, North Fresno Lions also participated in eight additional service projects which included cooking and serving a pancake breakfast for Hinds Hospice Angel Babies Walk/Run, bell ringing for the Salvation Army, feeding the homeless, and distributing gifts for Muddy Eyes fall and spring, sorting and cleaning used eyeglasses for Medical Ministries International fall and spring, hosting a Student Speakers Contest, and running a drive for Wings Advocacy in which they collected and donated over two carloads of useable household items for the bedroom, kitchen and bath; and

**WHEREAS,** North Fresno Lions has raised well over \$1,000,000 over their 75 years of service to Fresno to support local non-profits and charities like Central California Food Bank, Hinds Hospice, Poverello House, Marjaree Mason Center for Domestic Violence, Valley Center for the Blind, and the Salvation Army to name a few, and are proud that 100% of monies raised goes to charity; and

**WHEREAS,** On November 3, 2024, North Fresno Lions will celebrate 75 years of continuous service to the Fresno area.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** that we Mayor Jerry Dyer and the Fresno City Council recognize the dedication to those in need in the City of Fresno, and do hereby honor:

## **“North Fresno Lions”**

*in the City of Fresno.*

*IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hands and affixed the seal of the City of Fresno, California, this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of November 2024.*

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**JERRY DYER**, Honorable Mayor

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**MIKE KARBASSI**, Council Vice President

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**ANNALISA PEREA**, Council President

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**MIGUEL ARIAS**, Councilmember District 3

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**TYLER MAXWELL**, Councilmember District 4

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**LUIS CHAVEZ**, Councilmember District 5

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**GARRY BREDEFELD**, Councilmember District 6

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**NELSON ESPARZA**, Councilmember District 7