



*City of Grand Junction, State of Colorado*

## **Proclamation**

**Whereas,** in 1988 Grand Valley Catholic Outreach was formed by the combined effort of valley's four Catholic parishes – St. Joseph and Immaculate Heart of Mary (Grand Junction), Sacred Heart (Fruita), and St. Ann (Palisade); and

**Whereas,** in the ensuing 40 years with the support of interfaith and civic peoples and organizations, Grand Valley Catholic Outreach has offered resources along with respect, dignity, and hope to those in distress; and

**Whereas,** the Grand Valley Catholic Outreach – with Catholic meaning that anyone and everyone could serve or be served – has reliably, faithfully and boldly served in the community; and

**Whereas,** in 1999 Sister Karen Bland became the executive director of Grand Valley Catholic Outreach and has served the organization and the community in that capacity for 25 years; and

**Whereas,** Sister Karen Bland has been instrumental in Grand Valley Catholic Outreach completing numerous initiatives, including but not limited to transitional and permanent supportive housing at the T-House, St. Benedict's, St. Martin' and most recently Mother Teresa Place; and

**Whereas,** Grand Valley Catholic Outreach has continued to deliver, and grow, its support from the original soup kitchen and clothing bank to its current location with the additions of a day center and food pantry for those in need as well as helping with rental assistance, eviction prevention, the almost home guide, and other housing strategies; and

**Whereas,** Sister Karen's leadership and service is unequalled it is right and proper to recognize her for her commitment to Grand Valley Catholic Outreach and in turn the community she has been dedicated to for the past 25 years.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Abram Herman, by the power vested in me as Mayor of the City of Grand Junction, do hereby proclaim July 17, 2024, as

### ***"Sister Karen Bland Day"***

in the City of Grand Junction and encourages the recognition of her and her accomplishments by committing to serve in the spirit and with the grace, peace and mercy that she has served.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official Seal of the City of Grand Junction this 17<sup>th</sup> day of July 2024.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Abram Herman", written over a horizontal line.

Mayor