## RESOLUTION NO. R-2025-154

## A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF BASTROP, TEXAS, IN SUPPORT OF ADDRESSING FOOD INSECURITY AND STRENGTHENING LOCAL FOOD PANTRIES

WHEREAS, food insecurity—the lack of consistent access to enough food for an active, healthy life—continues to affect hundreds of Bastrop residents, including seniors, veterans, families with children, and individuals facing economic hardship; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Bastrop has a population of approximately 9,688 residents, with 11.5% living below the poverty line—representing more than 1,100 individuals, including a disproportionately high number of children, nearly 22.5% of whom are under age 5, live in poverty; and

**WHEREAS**, food access remains a significant challenge, with an estimated 17.3% of residents in Bastrop County lacking easy access to a large grocery store, making local food pantries and distribution programs essential lifelines for thousands of residents in and around the City of Bastrop; and

**WHEREAS**, the Bastrop County Food Task Force, a coalition of community partners, nonprofits, and public stakeholders, works to coordinate resources, promote sustainable solutions, and advocate for stronger infrastructure to combat hunger in Bastrop and surrounding communities; and

## NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Bastrop, Texas, that:

- The City of Bastrop recognizes food insecurity as an urgent and growing issue affecting the well-being of many of its residents and commits to addressing it as a priority for public health, community resilience, and economic development.
- 2. The City Council **pledges to support and partner with local food pantries**, faith-based organizations, nonprofits, and mutual aid groups to ensure equitable access to nutritious food for all Bastrop residents.
- The City of Bastrop commends the efforts of food pantry staff and volunteers, and encourages local individuals, businesses, and civic groups to contribute time, funds, or resources to support hunger relief initiatives in our community.

4. The City Council **proclaims September as Hunger Action Month** in the City of Bastrop and affirms its support for the Bastrop County Food Task Force and its efforts to coordinate countywide hunger solutions.

**DULY RESOLVED AND ADOPTED** by the City Council of the City of Bastrop, Texas, this 9<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2025.

APPROVED:

Ishmael Harris, Mayor

ATTEST:

Michael Muscarello, City Secretary

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

City Attorney

Denton Navarro Rocha Bernal & Zech, P.C.