PROCLAMATION
City of Charlotte/Mecklenburg County

WHEREAS, Crisis Assistance Ministry is Charlotte-Mecklenburg's lead agency for eviction prevention, utility assistance, and the basic needs in life; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Lea Tolbert, has served Crisis Assistance Ministry in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg community for 30 years, longer than any employee in the agency's 44-year history; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Lea Tolbert started out volunteering at the agency's clothing store ensuring that it was always stocked and cleaned and all customers were served with dignity; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Tolbert subsequently became the manager of The Community Free Store, which today distributes more than one million items free-of-charge to families in need; and

WHEREAS, today she serves as the Crisis Assistance Ministry's voice, answering the phone for people seeking help, hope and patiently guiding and reassuring callers; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Tolbert has been the sole organizer of an on-site food pantry since the agency began providing services out of the Caroline Love Myers Building, addressing the food insecurity that often goes hand-in-hand with poverty; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Tolbert works in seamless collaboration with Loaves and Fishes along with other hunger-fighting partners, further strengthening the agency's ability to create stability for customers; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Tolbert has impacted thousands of customers, faithful volunteers and fellow employees over the years with her listening ear and quiet but strong voice; and

WHEREAS, her genuinely kind spirit and big, caring heart is a model not only in how to serve but in how to love your neighbors.

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, Vi Alexander Lyles, Mayor of Charlotte, and George R. Dunlap, Chair of the Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim, June 18, 2019 as

"LEA TOLBERT DAY"

in Charlotte and Mecklenburg County.

WITNESS OUR HANDS and the official Seals of the City of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County.

Vi Lyles

Vi Alexander Lyles, Mayor
City of Charlotte

George R. Dunlap

George R. Dunlap, Chair
Mecklenburg Board of
County Commissioners