



**PROCLAMATION OF RECOGNITION FOR SERVICE TO GREENE  
COUNTY  
Gail Matson**

**WHEREAS**, Gail Matson has led a life of service with significant contributions to improving the lives of Greene County's most vulnerable citizens; and,

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Matson began her long career at Wright Patterson Air Force Base at 16. She has been in her current position as Executive Director of the Greene County FISH Food Pantry since 2013 and has worked tirelessly to make it sustainable; and,

**WHEREAS**, during her tenure at FISH she spearheaded the pantry's move from its former location on Ledbetter Road to its current home at 774 Cincinnati Avenue and helped to raise the funds to make the move possible; and,

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Matson began a capital campaign for a new warehouse facility with a freezer and a cooler to allow for the acceptance of more donated food; and,

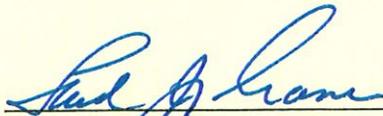
**WHEREAS**, FISH has continuously improved their reach during Ms. Matson's tenure serving 12,401 families in 2022, 15,000 in 2023 and even more in 2024; and

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Matson's many achievements and admirable work ethic have a common source: compassion. Her compassion has given her what she calls "a nonprofit heart" and that heart is what makes FISH tick. Wholesome food is available to every patron as well as the intangible gifts that are rooted in compassion that is contagious. 23,000 volunteer hours from 170 volunteers have been recorded over the past 12 months in service to Greene County's families, seniors and veterans, a testament to Ms. Matson's leadership and pull; and

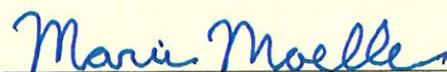
**WHEREAS**, under her guidance FISH has grown into the second largest food pantry in the Montgomery and Greene County area, serving 1100-1200 families each month, including 500 veterans and active-duty military personnel, and distributing 1,964,480 pounds of food to clients in 2024; and,

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Matson's compassion and drive to improve the lives of those in our community is deserving of recognition.

**NOW THEREFORE**, the Trustees of the Board of Sugar Creek Township hereby honors Gail Matson, recognizing her service to our community and her leadership in making FISH a true resource for our community's most vulnerable and encourages those able to donate to the capital campaign to complete the warehouse and freezer/cooler project prior to her retirement at the end of March, 2025.

  
Fred J Cramer, Chairperson

  
Carolyn L. Destefani, Vice-Chairperson

  
Marvin Moeller, Trustee