

2016 RESOLUTION 1 ADVOCACY FOR FOOD MINISTRY

Resolved, that the 146th Convention of the Diocese of Central Pennsylvania affirm the work and ministry of "Feed My Sheep," a diaconal Diocesan ministry of networking, collaboration and resourcing; and be it further *Resolved*, that the 146th Convention of the Diocese of Central Pennsylvania encourage congregations throughout the Diocese to engage in advocacy for food ministry through participation in local food pantries, feeding programs, community gardens, gleanings, and educational programs; and be it further *Resolved*, that the 146th Convention of the Diocese of Central Pennsylvania encourage and support efforts by the Diocese and its congregations to advocate changes in public policy, including prayer, letters and personal visits with lawmakers to help poor and hungry people, particularly utilizing the Feed My Sheep Ministry and the Social Justice Committee.

EXPLANATION

The 78th General Convention of the Episcopal Church, in Resolutions A091 and D095, called on dioceses to "deepen our understanding of the moral, cultural, and environmental relationships associated with food systems: and to "deepen our commitments as Christian communities to address food insecurity, food-related health issues and food-related environmental effects in our communities", encouraging creative projects and advocacy.

A091 Affirm Work for Food Ministries and Food Security

Resolved, the House of Deputies concurring, that the 78th General Convention affirm the work and projects being carried out across the Church in food ministry, including food pantries, feeding programs, community gardens, educational programs, and advocacy for programs that provide healthy, culturally appropriate food; and be it further

Resolved, that the 78th General Convention encourages the further development of Native and Indigenous community food programs, such as the program in Navajoland Area Mission that maintains and teaches traditional growing methods and food preparation techniques; and be it further

Resolved, that the 78th General Convention call on dioceses, congregations, and all the baptized to deepen our understanding of the moral, cultural, and environmental relationships associated with food systems, through educational programs focused on: sustainability, equity, cultural diversity, and accessibility of all people to healthy food; and be it further

Resolved, that this Convention call on dioceses, congregations, and all the baptized to deepen our commitments as Christian communities to address food insecurity, food-related health issues, and food-related environmental effects in our communities and nations, through new and creative community, regional, and ecumenical projects, such as school and community gardens, church garden tithing to food banks, involvement with migrant worker and farm worker ministries, and food-worker organizing; and be it further

Resolved, that this Convention call on dioceses, congregations, and all the baptized to increase our involvement in advocacy for the development and maintenance of sustainable; equitable; culturally appropriate; and accessible food systems.

D015 Encouraging Advocacy for Hunger Relief

Resolved, the House of Bishops concurring, That dioceses, parishes, and faithful Episcopalians are called to advocate changes in public policy to help poor and hungry people; and be it further

Resolved, That the 78th General Convention congratulate Bread for the World (BFW) for forty years of effective, non-partisan Christian public policy advocacy to make U.S. government rules and policies work better to combat hunger and poverty; and be it further

Resolved, That the 78th General Convention commend BFW's objective to change public policy in order to end extreme poverty and hunger in the United States and worldwide by 2030; and be it further

Resolved, That the 78th General Convention recognize that BFW's current advocacy efforts, including prayer, letters, and personal visits with lawmakers by committed Christians, are a faithful path for our dioceses, congregations and people to follow as Christian advocates for the poor and hungry.

Submitted by

The Rev. Canon Kate Harrigan, Chair—The Central Pennsylvania Deputation to the 78th General Convention,