



## RESOLUTION No. 17-82

### A RESOLUTION OF KAREN L. WHITE COUNCILMEMBER AT LARGE OF THE SOUTH BEND COMMON COUNCIL PUBLICLY RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING BERNICE BAUL-FREEMAN FOR HER LONGSTANDING, PASSIONATE COMMITMENT TO RACIAL AND SOCIAL JUSTICE IN THE CITY OF SOUTH BEND

*Whereas*, as an At Large Common Council Member of the City of South Bend, Indiana, I am humbled to honor and publicly recognize the many contributions and the public service that Bernice Baul-Freeman has rendered to the City of South Bend and its residents; and

*Whereas*, Mrs. Baul-Freeman worked for the Opportunities Industrial Center (OIC) of America founded by Dr. Leon Sullivan in 1984 for over fifteen (15) years, where she helped participants gain basic educational skills and helped hundreds receive their GED; and

*Whereas*, Mrs. Baul-Freeman has continued to serve as a Life Skills Coach to numerous at-risk youth and currently serves young adult women through the Porch Light Program operated by the Youth Service Bureau of St. Joseph County; and

*Whereas*, having been breast cancer free for twenty-three (23) years, Mrs. Baul-Freeman founded the Reaching Out Breast Cancer Awareness Center providing door-to-door educational services to raise breast cancer awareness and promote early detection; and

*Whereas*, Mrs. Baul-Freeman has voluntarily served numerous local agencies in various capacities as a constant voice for disenfranchised members of the South Bend community, including: the Minority Health Coalition, the Chronic Disease Prevention Task Force, the Michiana Cancer Survivors Society, Women In Touch, Michiana Cancer Task Force, Bridges Out of Poverty, United Community Against Drug & Alcohol Abuse, St. Joseph County Drug Coalition Board, South Bend Human Rights Commission, the Women's Concerns Committee, and Toys for Tots as a key organizer for twenty (20) years, and is responsible for the street renaming of Dr. Martin Luther King, Dr.; and

*Whereas*, Mrs. Baul-Freeman has been honored with the Drum Major Award by the Martin Luther King Jr. Foundation and more recently as a City of South Bend Black History Month Honoree.

*Now, Therefore, be it Proclaimed by Karen L. White Councilmember At Large of the South Bend Common Council as follows:*

**Section I.** It is my distinct honor to publicly commend and honor the service of Mrs. Bernice Baul-Freeman for her countless contributions made to our community and her passionate commitment to racial and social justice.

**Section II.** On behalf of the City of South Bend, Indiana, I am most humbled to thank Mrs. Baul-Freeman for her longstanding service and commitment to our city and wish her many more years of good works in relation to racial and social justice.

*Signed this 11<sup>th</sup> day of December 2017, in the City of South Bend, the County of St. Joseph, the State of Indiana.*