



Proclamation
Celebrating the 65th Anniversary of the Founding of The Center at Belvedere
(The Center)

WHEREAS, The Center at Belvedere (The Center), founded in 1960, is an award-winning nonprofit organization supporting older adults in our region and is almost entirely unique in its service and focus on the importance of building community and social connections by promoting holistic, age-friendly environments as a critical component of public health; and

WHEREAS, at the time of 'The Centers' founding, the work of volunteers in establishing the Senior Center put Albemarle County, Charlottesville, and surrounding counties, ahead of its time by providing one of few centers designed to support older adults to live with dignity and independence and remain one of a relatively small number of non-residential centers supported primarily by individual philanthropy; and

WHEREAS, today, thousands of people gather and embrace new opportunities to be physically active, learn new things, form friendships, pursue hobbies, give back to the community, and take all the small actions that add up to more years in good health; and

WHEREAS, everyone in the community benefits when we close the gap between lifespans and health spans and older adults who maintain active lifestyles and social connections incur lower healthcare costs, support family members as caregivers, and give back to the community as volunteers, and by supporting the spaces and experiences that promote these activities it contributes significantly to community health strategies.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that we, the Albemarle County Board of Supervisors, do hereby celebrate the 65th Anniversary of the Founding of The Center at Belvedere (The Center).

Signed this 19th day of February 2025

Jim H. Andrews, Chair
Albemarle Board of County Supervisors