

**NORTHWEST ARCTIC BOROUGH ASSEMBLY  
RESOLUTION 20-50**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHWEST ARCTIC BOROUGH  
ASSEMBLY IN SUPPORT OF THE NORTHWEST ALASKA HOMELESS  
COALITION.**

**WHEREAS:** the Northwest Arctic Region experiences the second-highest rate of homelessness of any area in the state, which is often associated with overcrowding issues, a lack of affordable housing, economic shortfalls, unemployment, and job loss; and

**WHEREAS:** due to recent economic impacts and hardships, including layoffs related to the COVID-19 pandemic, more residents are experiencing loss of housing, food shortage, and hunger; and

**WHEREAS:** the Northwest Alaska Homeless Coalition has proposed a Community Food Service Program to help meet the urgent food needs in Kotzebue; and

**WHEREAS:** the Northwest Alaska Homeless Coalition intends to organize itself as a nonprofit corporation with its primary objectives being the opening of a permanent homeless shelter, connecting clients with social services, and assessing, quantifying, and addressing overcrowding issues in the Region to improve and provide better living conditions; and

**WHEREAS:** the Coalition's proposed bylaws would establish a Board of Directors with one director from each of the following: the Borough, Maniilaq Association, NANA Regional Corporation, and Northwest Iñupiat Housing Authority, plus an at-large member from the Kotzebue community; and

**WHEREAS:** the Northwest Alaska Homeless Coalition has asked the Borough for a financial contribution to support the proposed Community Food Service Program, and the Borough contributed a portion of its CARES Act funds to assist with this program; and

**WHEREAS:** the Northwest Alaska Homeless Coalition has requested the Borough's support and commitment to participate in the establishment of the nonprofit Coalition, including by having a Borough representative sit on the nonprofit's Board of Directors; and


**WHEREAS:** the Borough recognizes the importance of addressing homelessness and food insecurity in the Region; and

**WHEREAS:** the Community Food Service Program would help address hunger and food insecurity in Kotzebue; and

**WHEREAS:** the establishment of the Northwest Alaska Homeless Coalition as a nonprofit corporation would help provide long-term resources to address homelessness and improve living conditions in the Region.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly supports the formation of the Northwest Arctic Homeless Coalition as a nonprofit corporation and commits to participate in its establishment through a Borough representative sitting on the nonprofit Board of Directors.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 28<sup>th</sup> DAY OF JULY 2020.**

  
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**Nathan Hadley, Jr., Assembly President**

**PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 28<sup>th</sup> DAY OF JULY 2020.**

  
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**Lucy S. Nelson, Mayor**

**SIGNED AND ATTESTED TO THIS 28<sup>th</sup> DAY OF JULY 2020.**

  
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**Stella Atoruk, Borough Clerk**

**ATTEST:**

