



Proclamation



CARE TO SHARE DAY

WHEREAS, prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, over 22% of households in Carrboro were estimated to have incomes below \$25,000;

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has had a profound impact on the local economy and many residents' incomes;

WHEREAS, at 4,000 gallons of use per month, the average water and sewer bill in Carrboro requires more than 11 hours of work at minimum wage to pay;

WHEREAS, since March 2020, when OWASA temporarily suspended service disconnections for non-payment in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the average past due amount per customer has more than tripled to over \$450;

WHEREAS, clean water is critical to public health and the vitality of our community;

WHEREAS, Orange Water and Sewer Authority (OWASA) is prohibited by law from providing discounted rates based on income;

WHEREAS, the Inter-Faith Council for Social Service (IFC) has partnered with the OWASA since 1997 to provide water and sewer bill assistance to members of our community through the Care to Share program;

WHEREAS, over the last year, the Care to Share Program raised enough funds to help about 105 households to pay \$200 down on their past due balance;

WHEREAS, it is easy for OWASA customers to contribute on their monthly water and sewer bill or through a one-time gift to the IFC's Care to Share Program;

WHEREAS, during the month of November we celebrate thankfulness for what we have;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that, I, Lydia Lavelle, Mayor of the Town of Carrboro, North Carolina, do hereby proclaim **November 18, 2021** as "**Care to Share Day**" in the Town of Carrboro, in conjunction with the Orange Water and Sewer Authority.

This the 16th day of November 2021



Lydia E. Lavelle, Mayor