## **RESOLUTION 9311**

## A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING MONTANA COMMUNITY VENTURES POVERTY REDUCTION PROJECT

WHEREAS, The Northwest Area Foundation exists to help communities in an eight state region, including Montana, to reduce poverty; and,

WHEREAS, The Foundation is identifying up to 16 communities with which to work intensively for up to 10 years to reduce poverty; and,

WHEREAS, The Foundation and an 11 county region, including three Native American Reservations, in North Central Montana have sponsored a regional partnership called Montana Community Ventures to identify strategies to accomplish goals for poverty reduction; and,

WHEREAS, the Counties in this 31 thousand square mile region (Blaine, Cascade, Chouteau, Glacier, Hill, Judith Basin, Liberty, Phillips, Pondera, Teton and Toole) as well as the reservations (Blackfeet, Ft. Belknap and Rocky Boys) suffer poverty rates that range from 9.7 percent in Toole County to 38 percent on the Rocky Boy's Indian Reservation; and,

WHEREAS, the federal poverty rate in Cascade County is 10.4 percent, which means 2,258 Cascade County families live below the federal definition of poverty; and,

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the citizens of Great Falls for this poverty reduction project to succeed,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Commission of the City of Great Falls, that it recommends its citizens support Montana Community Ventures Poverty Reduction Project by participating in the strategic planning process; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Commissioners of the City of Great Falls recommend those citizens be encouraged to add input to the final plan to reduce poverty in the region.

PASSED by the Commission of the City of Great Falls, Montana, on this 6th day of May, 2003.

Randall H. Gray, Mayor

ATTEST:

Peggy J. Bourne, City Clerk

(SEAL OF CITY)

David V. Gliko, City Attorney

State of Montana ) County of Cascade: ss. City of Great Falls )

I, PEGGY J. BOURNE, City Clerk of the City of Great Falls, Montana, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution 9311 was placed on its final passage and adoption, and was passed and adopted by the City Commission of said City at a Regular Meeting thereof held on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2003, and approved by the Mayor of said City, on the 6th day of May, 2003.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Seal of said City, this 6th day of May, 2003.

Peggy J. Bourne, City Clerk

(SEAL OF CITY)