

DETROIT CITY COUNCIL

Testimonial Resolution

Phyllis Edwards

dedicated social worker, community leader, advocate, and mentor

WHEREAS, It is with great pleasure and privilege that we, the members of the Detroit City Council, recognize and bestow honor upon Phyllis J. Edwards, MSW, for her outstanding leadership and advocacy in the nonprofit sector on her retirement. The members of the Detroit City Council would like to publicly acknowledge this important event in her life; and

WHEREAS, Phyllis J. Edwards earned a Bachelor of Social Work degree from Marygrove College and received a professional graduate fellowship to attend Wayne State University, where she earned her Master of Social Work degree. She later attended the University of Michigan, where she earned her Master of Urban and Regional Planning degree; and

WHEREAS, Phyllis J. Edwards has made significant contributions to the local community throughout her career. Most recently, she served as Executive Director for Bridging Communities, a nonprofit located in Southwest Detroit, from August 16, 2010 to May 31, 2022. In this role, Phyllis J. Edwards advocated for Detroit elders by providing access to housing and social support services. Before her tenure at Bridging Communities, Phyllis J. Edwards was a Social Services Manager with the Wayne County Department of Health and Human Services for 33 years; and

WHEREAS, Phyllis J. Edwards has served on the board of numerous nonprofits. Nationally, she is a national board member for Self-Development of People, the National Association of Nonprofit Organizations and Executives, and previous member-at-large with the National Association of Social Worker (NASW) Board of Directors. She is the board chair for Aging Services Consortium for Detroit, Board chair and past treasurer for the Southeast Michigan Senior Regional Collaborative, member of the advisory board for the Detroit Area Agency on Aging 1A, advisory board member for First Merchant Bank, and board chair for Community Development Advocates of Detroit (CDAD). She is the co-chair for the Detroit National Community Reinvestment Coalition, and a member of the advisory board developing a Strategic Housing Plan with the Michigan State Housing Development Authority; and

WHEREAS, Phyllis J. Edwards is a longtime Detroit resident. She firmly believes that when you do community-based work "every day is a great day in the neighborhood." NOW, THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, That the Office of Council Member Gabriela Santiago-Romero and the Detroit City Council, hereby present this Testimonial Resolution to Phyllis J. Edwards, MSW, in recognition of her retirement and extends best wishes for continued health and happiness.

Mary Sheffield
COUNCIL PRESIDENT

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PRO TEM

Calvin A. Gray II
COUNCIL MEMBER

COUNCIL MEMBER

Angela Whitfield Calloway
COUNCIL MEMBER

COUNCIL MEMBER

Datosha Johnson
COUNCIL MEMBER

COUNCIL MEMBER

COUNCIL MEMBER

June 24, 2022

DATE