Councilmember Anita Bonds

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## A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

## IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To recognize and honor the Family and Medical Counseling Services, Inc. (FMCS), a community health center located in the historic Anacostia neighborhood of Southeast Washington, D.C., who is sponsoring a town hall discussion about the impact of HIV/AIDS on the community as part of the observance of World Aids Day on December 1, 2014.

WHEREAS, FMCS is a private, non-profit 501(c)(3) community health center that has served residents in historic Anacostia and across the District with healthcare since 1976;

WHEREAS, FMCS has developed and delivered educational, prevention, and treatment services to address the critical healthcare and social service needs of African American communities;

WHEREAS, In observance of World AIDS Day 2014, FMCS is sponsoring a town hall discussion at Gateway DC/R.I.S.E. about "The Impact of HIV/AIDS, Mental Illness and Substance Abuse on Your Community—Successes and Challenges";

 WHEREAS, This year's theme, "Focus, Partner, Achieve: An AIDS-free Generation," underscores FMCS' commitment to educating all DC residents about the best treatments, services, and prevention strategies for combating HIV/AIDS, mental illness, substance abuse and other co-occurring health issues confronting residents living in poverty or at-risk for HIV;

 WHEREAS, Case studies reveal that more than 16,000 DC residents or 2.5% of the population are living with HIV thereby exceeding the World Health Organization's definition of 1% as a severe epidemic and since 2008, there has been a 70% decrease in new infections as a result of FMCS programs;

| 1  | WHEREAS, in 2010, FMCS expanded to become a federally qualified health                     |
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| 2  | center prompting an expansion in its outreach and approach;                                |
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| 4  | WHEREAS, FMCS is a federally qualified health center being celebrated as a                 |
| 5  | center of innovation through the creation of cutting edge educational programs such as     |
| 6  | HIV testing in non-traditional community sites such as the Department of Motor Vehicles    |
| 7  | and the Economic Securities Administration;  |
| 8  |  |
| 9  | WHEREAS, Since its incorporation in 1976, FMCS has grown from a public                     |
| 10 | welfare focused staff of four social workers to a culturally competent staff of 70 in 2014 |
| 11 | offering a full range of services from primary care to support services and;               |
| 12 |  |
| 13 | WHEREAS, The FMCS' motto, "Quality Health Care from the Cradle to the                      |
| 14 | Grave," expresses its care and concern for the total person living a full creative life;   |
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| 16 | RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, that                                 |
| 17 | this resolution may be cited as the "District of Columbia Family Medical Counseling        |
| 18 | Services Inc. Recognition Resolution of 2014".   |
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| 20 | Sec. 2. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first day of                |
| 21 | publication in the District of Columbia Register.  |
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