

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

25-125

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

October 3, 2023

To recognize the many and varied contributions that Whitman-Walker has made to the District of Columbia on the occasion of the organization's 50th Anniversary.

WHEREAS, Whitman-Walker has been part of the fabric of the local D.C. and national community as first responder and care-provider for those living with HIV, a leader in LGBTQQIA+ care and advocacy, and a research center working to discover breakthroughs in HIV treatment and prevention science;

WHEREAS, Whitman-Walker is one of the District's most trusted partners in delivering quality health care, including during the COVID-19 pandemic;

WHEREAS, Whitman-Walker began its work in 1973 as a safe space for gay men to receive care for sexually transmitted diseases without discrimination and fear and has evolved into a care provider that serves their community with respect, dignity and grace;

WHEREAS, the Whitman-Walker Clinic opened in 1978 in Northwest D.C. and later opened the Max Robinson Center in 1993, allowing the organization to expand its reach and patient profile and to become a leader in HIV/AIDS education, prevention, diagnosis, and treatment;

WHEREAS, Whitman-Walker Health provides primary medical care, behavioral health care, dental care, and a range of health-related legal and support services to more than 20,000 individuals and families annually in the greater Washington, D.C., region;

WHEREAS, Whitman-Walker opened the newly renovated Max Robinson Center on the St. Elizabeth's East Campus on August 14th, 2023;

WHEREAS, the Max Robinson Center will expand opportunities for quality healthcare, community advocacy, and research education to communities east of the Anacostia River;

WHEREAS, the new healthcare center will expand patient care by 200% or an expected 15,000 patient visits by 2025;

WHEREAS, Whitman-Walker endeavors to be an inclusive space that centers the needs and experiences of Black, Indigenous, and people of color, LGBTQQIA+ people, and systemically underserved communities;

**ENROLLED ORIGINAL**

WHEREAS, Whitman-Walker celebrates its 50th anniversary and envisions a society where all people are seen for who they are, treated with dignity and respect, and afforded equal opportunities to health and well-being.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the “Whitman-Walker 50th Anniversary Celebration Recognition Resolution of 2023”.

Sec. 2. The Council recognizes and honors Whitman-Walker for its tireless commitment to the LGBTQQIA+ community and the District at large on the occasion of the organization's 50th Anniversary.

Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately.