

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

23-74

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

May 7, 2019

To honor and recognize DC SCORES, a nonprofit organization whose mission is to provide at-risk youth with confidence and skills to succeed on the playing field, in the classroom, and in life, on its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

WHEREAS, founded in 1994 by teacher Julie Kennedy at Marie Reed Elementary School, DC SCORES has served over 2,800 Washington, D.C. elementary and middle school students, with a current waiting list of more than 20 schools in the District;

WHEREAS, DC SCORES runs the only public soccer leagues for both elementary and middle school-aged children in the District of Columbia that combine art and service-learning with soccer;

WHEREAS, DC SCORES uses poetry to teach its students how to write creatively and perform spoken word so that by the end of the program, every student has written at least five original poems and performs in the annual DC SCORES Poetry Slam;

WHEREAS, through DC SCORES, students collaborate and develop service-learning plans to address issues identified in their schools and communities, including service plans for community cleanups, awareness campaigns, and fundraisers for homeless charities;

WHEREAS, in addition to its after-school programming, DC SCORES runs a six-week nutrition and soccer program and holds free summer camps focused on soccer and the arts;

WHEREAS, in 1999, DC SCORES expanded beyond Washington, D.C. and became America SCORES and now operates 14 programs in cities across the United States and Canada, including Boston, Chicago, Cleveland, Dallas, Denver, Los Angeles, Milwaukee, New York, Portland, St. Louis, Seattle, and Vancouver;

WHEREAS, in 2015, D.C. United began a partnership with DC SCORES with the goal of improving low-income children's physical fitness and confidence while building literacy, increasing school engagement, and deepening their connections to their community;

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WHEREAS, under the leadership of its Executive Director, Bethany Rubin Henderson, DC SCORES remains committed to advocating for and supporting the youth of the District of Columbia to have a voice, feel heard, understood, and empowered;

WHEREAS, in 2018, Executive Director Bethany Rubin Henderson was named Executive Director of the Year by the Washington Business Journal; further, in the same year, DC SCORES was listed as a top-rated nonprofit by GreatNonprofits;

WHEREAS, DC SCORES has contributed greatly to the Ward 4 community and has been providing arts programming and physical instruction to students for 20 years; and

WHEREAS, DC SCORES will celebrate its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary in the District of Columbia.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the “DC SCORES 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Ceremonial Recognition Resolution of 2019”.

Sec. 2. The Council recognizes and honors DC SCORES for its 25 years of outstanding service in improving the lives of the youth and families in Ward 4 and of the District of Columbia.

Sec. 3. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of publication in the District of Columbia Register.