

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

23-58

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

April 2, 2019

To celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Frank R. Williams Scholarship Fund's Annual Two-Mile Fun Walk and to recognize the organization for its commitment to increasing higher education opportunities for students at Calvin Coolidge Senior High School.

WHEREAS, education is an important element in the daily lives of our children and young adults, our families, and our communities;

WHEREAS, the Frank R. Williams Scholarship Fund is a distinctive organization that partners with the Calvin Coolidge Senior High School administration and faculty to honor student athletes in their senior year who demonstrate success on the field, strong leadership qualities, and a commitment to both scholarship and community service;

WHEREAS, since 2006, the Frank R. Williams Scholarship Fund has provided 15 scholarships to support students' textbook and living costs, and other incidental expenses associated with their higher education at 13 different colleges and universities across the country;

WHEREAS, the mission of the Frank R. Williams Scholarship Fund is to continue the legacy of Frank R. Williams and to share his ideals with others;

WHEREAS, Frank R. Williams was a native Washingtonian and devoted teacher, coach, husband, and father;

WHEREAS, Frank R. Williams, who attended District of Columbia Public Schools from grade school through high school, attended Calvin Coolidge Senior High School, located in Ward 4, and excelled in sports, including basketball and baseball;

WHEREAS, Frank R. Williams earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Physical Education from Howard University and, later, a Master of Arts degree in Administration and Supervision from George Washington University;

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WHEREAS, in 1971, Frank R. Williams returned to Calvin Coolidge Senior High School as a physical education teacher, instilling in his students the importance of education, hard work, leadership, and community service;

WHEREAS, as head basketball coach at Calvin Coolidge Senior High School, in 1986, Frank R. Williams led the Colts to their finest season, earning him the honor of being named *The Washington Post* Coach of the Year and 95% of Frank R. Williams' players enrolled in college, and went on to serve the community in a variety of capacities;

WHEREAS, Frank R. Williams was diagnosed with brain cancer and lost his battle with the disease at 43 years of age, leaving behind his wife, Helen, and 2 young daughters, Ryann and Randi;

WHEREAS, Frank R. Williams posthumously was honored with inductions into the D.C. Coaches Association, the Howard University Athletics Hall of Fame, and the Frank R. Williams Activity Center at Calvin Coolidge Senior High School, which serves as a center of athletics, wellness, and congregation for students and residents of the Brightwood/Takoma neighborhoods in Ward 4;

WHEREAS, in 2010, the Frank R. Williams Scholarship Fund established the Annual Two-Mile Fun Walk to promote the many health benefits of regular walking as communities of color and senior citizens are disproportionately impacted by some of the most preventable conditions, such as cancer, heart disease, diabetes, and high blood pressure; and

WHEREAS, the Frank R. Williams Scholarship Fund also supports the National Brain Tumor Society's brain tumor research program that has funded more than \$38 million in grants and awards in the areas of prevention, treatment, and patient support with the goal of conquering and curing brain tumors, broadening and diversifying its programming, and providing progressively larger monetary gifts to address the rising costs of higher education that often limit the pursuit of further learning.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the "Frank R. Williams Scholarship Fund's Annual Two-Mile Fun Walk 10th Anniversary Recognition Resolution of 2019".

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia congratulates the Frank R. Williams Scholarship Fund on the 10th anniversary of the Annual Two-Mile Fun Walk and celebrates the fund's support of student athletes at Calvin Coolidge Senior High School who seek to use higher education as a tool to serve others and impact their communities.

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