

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

24-57

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

June 15, 2021

To recognize Vanella Jackson-Crawford for being named Ms. Senior District of Columbia and for a lifetime of work towards bettering the community through her physical and mental health practice.

WHEREAS, as the winner of the 2021 Ms. Senior DC Pageant, Ms. Jackson-Crawford will compete in the virtual Ms. Senior America Pageant on August 7, 2021;

WHEREAS, Ms. Jackson-Crawford graduated from Cardozo High School;

WHEREAS, Ms. Jackson-Crawford attended Federal City College, now the University of the District of Columbia, and Fisk University;

WHEREAS, Ms. Jackson-Crawford earned a Master of Social Work from Howard University and a certificate in Child and Adolescent Psychotherapy from the Washington School of Psychiatry;

WHEREAS, Ms. Jackson-Crawford published health and wellness research on the Black community, particularly Black women;

WHEREAS, Ms. Jackson-Crawford was a mental health care provider for Howard University Hospital's Department of Social Work and Psychiatry;

WHEREAS, Ms. Jackson-Crawford has dedicated her professional career to providing mental, emotional, physical, and spiritual health services to communities across the country;

WHEREAS, Ms. Jackson-Crawford is active in local political organizations such as Women in Politics, the Washington Democratic Women's Club, and NOPE Political Organization;

WHEREAS, Ms. Jackson-Crawford was recognized as the Entrepreneur of the Year and Social Worker of the Year by the National Association of Social Workers Metro DC Chapter;

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WHEREAS, Ms. Jackson-Crawford won a bodybuilding competition in her 50's – a journey that was reported by ESPN;

WHEREAS, Ms. Jackson-Crawford volunteers 3 times a week as coach to seniors enrolled in a virtual exercise class;

WHEREAS, Ms. Jackson-Crawford has become a sought-after comedian after beginning a career in stand-up comedy in her 60's;

WHEREAS, Ms. Jackson-Crawford is a mother, grandmother, and a great-grandmother;

WHEREAS, Ms. Jackson-Crawford is owner and CEO of THE VANELLA GROUP DC, Inc, where she provides life coaching to communities, companies, agencies, and groups in the metropolitan DC area; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Jackson-Crawford intends to launch a podcast devoted to mental and spiritual wellness.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the "Vanella Jackson-Crawford Ms. Senior DC Recognition Resolution of 2021".

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia expresses its most profound appreciation for the work that Vanella Jackson-Crawford has done for the people of the District of Columbia and congratulates her on being named Ms. Senior DC for 2021.

Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately.