

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

24-220

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

July 12, 2022

To recognize, honor, and celebrate Alicia Horton’s leadership and guidance as the Executive Director of Thrive DC and exemplary service and contribution to the District of Columbia.

WHEREAS, Alicia Horton is a non-profit veteran having worked in the sector for over 30 years;

WHEREAS, in 2008 Ms. Horton became the Executive Director at Thrive DC, a “one stop shop” for people in need, and served with compassion and distinction in that role for 14 years;

WHEREAS, Ms. Horton, immediately upon taking her role as Executive Director, she oversaw the transition from its longtime home in downtown DC as the Dinner Program for Homeless Women to Columbia Heights under its new name of Thrive DC;

WHEREAS, within the first few years of her tenure, 3 other homeless services agencies in the neighborhood closed down, Thrive DC became the only place in Ward 1 for comprehensive services; and in response Ms. Horton led Thrive DC by expanding low barrier services including meals, showers, laundry, job training, and substance abuse counseling, and making it a place known for welcoming people without judgement and offering support with dignity, caring, and compassion;

WHEREAS, under Ms. Horton’s tenure, Thrive DC has distributed over 3.38 million pounds of food to people in need;

WHEREAS, Ms. Horton saw the expansion of Thrive DC into new critically needed services: dedicated substance abuse counseling in Spanish and English, victim services, and formal programming for returning citizens; and in 2022, Thrive DC began providing housing for the first time, opening up a transitional home for men after incarceration;

WHEREAS, in 2018, Ms. Horton was appointed to the Interagency Council on Homelessness; was a founding member of the DC Reentry Action Network, sitting on their

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Leadership Council and serving as the Policy Chair up to the present moment; was an active member of the Victims Action Network; and in 2019 she joined the Public Health Integrated Advisory Committee, a multi-sector, interdisciplinary body that seeks to implement both the DC Healthy People 2020 state health improvement planning process and the Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant;

WHEREAS, Ms. Horton previously served as Director of Community Mobilization and National Constituencies for the Brady Center to Prevent Gun Violence; and as Executive Director of HEER US, a Health Education organization she founded in New Orleans;

WHEREAS, for 6 years, Ms. Horton served as Chair of the Board of Directors of the national nonprofit, Teaching for Change; has served as an active member of the Howard University Medical Review Board for the Protection of Human Subjects for the last 20 years; and joined the Advarra Institutional review Board in 2022;

WHEREAS, Ms. Horton has received several honors and awards throughout her academic and professional career including the 2016 Top 40 Non-profit Innovators award, the 2013 Washington Wizards Black History Month Community Spotlight Honoree, the District of Columbia Chief of Police Special Award for Community Service and the Catholic University's Columbus School of Law "Extra Mile Award" based on significant contributions to the Columbus School of Law and the community;

WHEREAS, Ms. Horton holds a Juris Doctor degree with a specialty in Public Policy from the Columbus School of Law at the Catholic University of America, a Master's in Public Health degree from the School of Public Health at Tulane University, and a Bachelor of Science degree in Microbiology from Howard University; and

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the "Alicia Horton Ceremonial Resolution of 2022."

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia recognizes and celebrates Alicia Horton and her service to Thrive DC and the District of Columbia.

Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately.