



City of Chicago



R2019-217

Office of the City Clerk

Document Tracking Sheet

Meeting Date:	4/10/2019
Sponsor(s):	Osterman (48)
Type:	Resolution
Title:	Congratulations extended to The Selfhelp Home on 70th anniversary
Committee(s) Assignment:	

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ALDERMAN HARRY OSTERMAN

48TH WARD

RESOLUTION

Whereas The Selfhelp Home, incorporated in 1949 as an Illinois not-for-profit organization, is celebrating its 70th anniversary. Originally a mutual aid society, The Selfhelp Home has served more than 1,000 survivors and victims of the Holocaust.

Whereas The Selfhelp Home, located today at 908 W. Argyle St., remains an anchor in the Jewish community. It stands as a living, breathing testament to the human spirit and the name "Selfhelp" embodies the character, determination and fortitude of the founding men and woman who organized a volunteer network of European-Americans to care for the refugees fleeing Nazism and, later, the rare survivors.

Whereas Selfhelp officially became a "Home" in 1951 when it purchased the old Drexel Mansion in Hyde Park, housing 19 residents. As the need surpassed space, Selfhelp purchased and rebuilt the building at 908 W. Argyle and, subsequently expanding and purchasing the 920 Argyle building next door several years later.

Whereas today, 70 years later, The Selfhelp Home is the only not-for-profit home providing the full continuum of care for seniors, independent living, assisted living, skilled nursing, short-term rehabilitation and outpatient therapy for Chicago's Jewish community.

Whereas today The Selfhelp Home ranks as one of the top nursing homes nationwide providing the highest level of care. Today, The Selfhelp Home thrives as a boutique Jewish community housing 150 older adults who experience the highest quality of life possible, founded on the principles of compassion and dignity. Selfhelp is among the most respected Jewish elder communities and nursing homes in the United States.

Whereas The Selfhelp Home maintains the highest rating of 5 stars by Medicare, and was awarded Best Nursing Homes by U.S. News and World Report in 2019, 2018, 2017, 2016, 2015 and 2014, and is accredited by the Joint Commission.



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Therefore, be it resolved that today we honor The Selfhelp Home and its leaders, founders and presidents, late and present, including: Dr. Walter Freidlander; Friedrich Kessler; Rabbi Fritz Bamberger; Richard Emanuel; Dr. William F. Becker and Mrs. Dorothy Becker; Johanna Oschatzke; Edith Stern; Frederick Aufrecht; Herb Roth, Dr. Rolf A. Weil and Mrs. Leni Weil; Jenny Wolf; Gerald E. Franks; Ursula Levy; our current Chairman of the Board, Austin Hirsch, and all those who made it a priority to provide a caring and comfortable home for seniors to live out their years with compassion, dignity and quality of life.

Harry Osterman

Alderman, 48th Ward