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R2011-1203

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City Council Document Tracking Sheet

Meeting Date: 10/5/2011
Sponsor(s): Mitts, Emma (37)
Type: Resolution
Title: Congratulations extended to Jacqueline Reed
Committee(s) Assignment:



RESOLUTION HONORING THE LEGACY OF JACKIE REED WEST SIDE HEALTH AUTHORITY

WHEREAS, Mrs. Jacqueline Reed has been a dedicated community leader for many years, and is considered by many to be an invaluable health care icon, social activist and visionary; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Reed is often considered one of the 'hardest working women in Chicago healthcare,' she is known throughout Chicago and across the United States for her steadfast belief in and commitment to increased access to quality health care and supportive services on the city's west side. She is further gifted with a spiritual and missionary-like commitment to social change, coupled with a range of sincere and sophisticated skills that made her an extremely effective administrator, and community advocate; and

WHEREAS, the Westside Health Authority (WHA) was founded by **Jacqueline Reed**, former President / CEO in 1988, and has served the Austin and west side communities for twenty-three years. More than two decades later, the Westside Health Authority is still serving the Austin community and other neighborhoods in metropolitan Chicago; and

WHEREAS, The West Side Health Authority was started by a group of committed individuals who were strong advocates of social change. The WSA mission was then and today remains to develop and maintain sustainable communities; and

WHEREAS, the Westside Health Authority (WHA) is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit community based organization whose mission is to use the capacity of community residents to improve the health and well-being of the community; and WHA's strength comes from community organizing, such as the Cornerstone Project "**Every Block a Village,**" which harnesses the collective assets of the neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, the mission of Westside Health Authority (WHA) is to leverage the capacity of community residents to improve the health and well-being of the community. For **WHA**, "health" is defined broadly to include the social and physical environment which contributes to the mental, physical, and spiritual well-being of a person. It also includes relationships with family, friends, and neighbors and the ability to find stable employment; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Reed is the recipient of numerous awards and honors, and is a graduate of the University of Chicago's School of Social Service Administration (SSA) with a Master's Degree in Social Work. Further, she has amassed over thirty-five years of social services and community organizing experience. This and other diverse professional accomplishments have allowed her to strong provide leadership to ordinary citizens to positively impact and shape public policies, programs for the betterment of the community; and

WHEREAS, The Westside Health Authority (WHA) is proudly celebrating **23 years of service** to communities throughout the west side of Chicago during 2011, which operates six sites, multiple health and human service-related programs and initiatives and has over fifty loyal and dedicated employees. **Jacqueline Reed** is dedicated to affecting social and economic change by ensuring that resources are directed back to the communities that need them the most. She is heralded as one of the visionaries who provide a way by which hard working individuals, businesses and organizations throughout Chicago can pool their resources for the support of programs that allow local residents to determine their own destiny; and

WHEREAS, The Mayor and the City Council have been informed by 37th Ward Alderman **Emma Mitts** about the long-standing dedication, leadership, commitment and activism of **Mrs. Jacqueline Reed** and the **Westside Health Authority**; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That we, the Mayor and Members of the City Council of the City of Chicago, assembled this fifth day of October, 2011 do hereby honor, and wish to express our sincere congratulations to **Mrs. Jacqueline Reed** on the occasion of her retirement from the Westside Health Authority, and for her outstanding and visionary leadership, and dedication to excellence; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that suitable copies of this resolution be presented to the Mrs. Jacqueline Reed as a sign of our deep respect, appreciation and esteem for her many years of selfless service to the residents of the City of Chicago.

~~Rahm Emanuel, Mayor~~

*Erna Mitts
Alderman '37th Ward*

~~Susan Mendoza, City Clerk~~

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