



City of Chicago



R2022-603

Office of the City Clerk

Document Tracking Sheet

Meeting Date: 6/22/2022

Sponsor(s): Hairston (5)

Type: Resolution

Title: Recognition of Patricia Hightower's 50 years of community service

Committee(s) Assignment:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, PATRICIA HIGHTOWER, was born in Miami, Florida and raised in Lakeland Florida;

WHEREAS, Patricia attended Bethune Cookman College and because of racial bias, she was not allowed in colleges located in Lakeland, Florida; as such, Lakeland was her learning ground for tenacity, aspirations, and involvement in social justice issues;

WHEREAS, after two years of college, the only jobs available for **Patricia** were in housekeeping, cleaning offices, and other menial jobs;

WHEREAS, Patricia moved to Chicago in 1963 to seek better opportunities;

WHEREAS, Patricia worked a Spiegel's, and then for the Federal Reserve Bank for ten (10) years;

WHEREAS, Patricia had one daughter named Dawn, who had sickle cell anemia, and was admitted to the hospital during the time of her employment with Federal Reserve Bank;

WHEREAS, Patricia was faced with the difficult decision to either be with her daughter in the hospital or lose her job, and therefore left Federal Reserve in 1980;

WHEREAS, Patricia's decision to leave the Bank turned out to be a blessing in disguise, as Patricia was notified that she was eligible for retirement benefits because of her ten (10) years of service;

WHEREAS, Patricia was encouraged by an employee at the Federal Reserve Bank to apply to Roosevelt University, and after doing so, she transferred 58 credit hours from Bethune Cookman College;

WHEREAS, Patricia worked in the Theater, Bursar's Office, and other work-study jobs until she received her degree;

WHEREAS, Patricia held several positions in social work, finally retiring from Sullivan House;

WHEREAS, Patricia has been a proud a long-term member for over 40 years at Bryn Mawr Church, and is a member of the Choir, Women's Board, and a volunteer with the Food Pantry;

WHEREAS, on December 30, 1998, **Patricia's** daughter Dawn passed away at the age of 30, and although she was not a member, her life was celebrated at Bryn Mawr Church because of her mother's work and dedication;

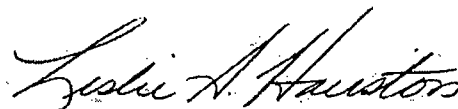
WHEREAS, Patricia is a motivator and a shining example for her nieces and nephews, and she is very proud of all of the professional accomplishments that they have achieved;

WHEREAS, Patricia's Motto is "Respect yourself first, demand respect, and give respect;" accordingly, she has taught other females to "always be a woman and a lady;"

NOW THEREFORE:

BE IT RESOLVED that we, the Mayor and Members of the City Council of the City of Chicago, assembled this _____ day of June, 2022, do hereby honor the community service of **PATRICIA HIGHTOWER**, and extend our congratulations to her for 50 years of community service, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that suitable copies of this Resolution be presented to **PATRICIA HIGHTOWER** as a sign of our good wishes.



By: _____

Alderman Leslie A. Hairston
5th Ward