



Office of the City Clerk

City Hall
121 N. LaSalle St.
Room 107
Chicago, IL 60602
www.chicityclerk.com

Legislation Text

File #: O2021-671, Version: 1

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO:

SECTION 1. Pursuant to an ordinance heretofore passed by the City Council which allows erection of honorary street-name signs, the Commissioner of Transportation shall take the necessary action for standardization of South Ashland Avenue, from West 79th Street to West 80TM* Street (7900 to 8000 South Throop Street) as "Kidz Korna Way."

SECTION 2. This ordinance shall take effect upon its passage and publication.

HOWARD B. BROOK&IS Alderman, 2 Ist Ward

Biography for Kidz Korna - We 're celebrating over 20 years of Youth Service I

Since 1995, Kidz Korna, NFP has been taking youth from the corners to opportunities, formed with hand full of young people under the direction of DeleceWilliams in a 3rd floor apartment overlooking the corner of 79th and Ashland.

Having being fed up with the violence afrd abuse taking place with inner-city youth we founded a local tv show called Kidz Koma produced at Can Television of which to date has impacted thousands of families throughout the city of Chicago with our community outreach work including house music and ministry.

The most unique thing about the show is that it became a magnet for child abuse prevention. Secretly, youth would call in for help and our young people began to respond, coming off the screen and into the streets to get answers.

Our work has now gained global attention from a major television network In London where as BBC Is flying a camera crew here to film the corner were Kidz Korna got started on 79th and Ashland along with the King of House Music, Farley Jackmaster Funk, our Music Producer.

In the early 2000's on that same corner we turned a small abandoned dollar store into a youth site with the help of everyday neighbors wanting to see change which the intersection there is considered a four-cornered war zone (each corner is a different gang turf). There, we had after-school programs, summer day camp, arts and crafts workshops, tutoring, mentoring, computer literacy, media training and parenting classes.

One year during our annual Toy giveaway event approximately 7,000 people showed up and from then on we've been providing more than gifts' for Christmas to a captive audience of over 1000 underserved individuals yearly who are looking for hope to change their economic situation thus forming a family focused Youth Expo to provide meaningful resources for Christmas as well. We are currently preparing for the 12th annual Kidz Korna Toy Giveaway and Youth Expo and this event alone has served up to 25,000 people at various Locations around the city of Chicago.

We are constantly creating initiatives to help our young people avoid a life of crime whereas over 75% of our young people front our programs are successful in their careers and we have just partnered with The Smithsonian African American Museum in Washington DC to take youth and families their twice a year as our music director one of the creators of House Music, Farley Jackmaster Funk is inducted. This inspirational experience allows our young people to change their mindset, as he also grew up in their neighborhood and many of them never been outside of their communities. Kidz Korna also founded the House Music health fair and DJ training project that kicked off at the McCormick Convention Center in 2015. s.,

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We are also currently building a peace playground in Englewood and we are in pre-production for all new episodes of the Kidz Korna tvShow to be shown j» on cable and can television in early 2018, Family focused programming has been

our goal throughout the years while pushing for solutions to help our young people in every way that we can.

We have been a trailblazer for many grass-root youth organizations around the city of Chicago, encouraging determined individuals wtd wanted to see change in their communities to start right where they are. Our young people started off Jennifer Hudson's family Toy Giveaway and Kids Off the Block founder asked us to help her get started along with several others,

Lastly, our newest initiative is "Bringing Big Momma Back" it's youth/senior intergenerational mentoring under our New 50 Plus Movement. This program engages seniors as we travel to nursing homes and etc., encouraging them to lea^e their legacy via story telling and other projects during the Kidz Korna Mentoring Mobile Tour, %

Other mentoring moments for The Kidz'Koma Tv Show is that the young people began attracting A-List celebrities to come on our no-budget show because they felt what the young people where doing to help others is so important. Some special appearances are from: Common, Comedian Monique, Steve Harvey, Donny McClurkin, Michael Jackson's Children, the Late Albertina Walker, and more, please the celebrity page for the entire list.

Kidz Korna has a honorary letter from President Obama regarding the work of our Big Momma of our organization (the Late Willien McGee) remembering the work that she helped us do throughout the years. She has helped us with numerous child abuse prevention public awareness campaigns including yearly performances at Daley Plaza and several traveling performances at various festivals throughout the city. Much to our surprise parents would often come up and ask for help which caused us to partner with Illinois Prevent Child Abuse in Springfield IL,

We have 3 proclamation letters from the city of Chicago... 1 from the former Mayor and 2 from The current Mayor. Other proclamation letters came from Jesse White, Dorothy Brown and the former Governor Pat Quinn. 4.

We also have numerous accolades along with the founder including Oprah's Angel Network, the National Child Welfare Labor committee in New York, Several Honorable mentions as a Hero in the Hood, from Chicago Public School's faith-based community as we also partner with churches to help Youth/church relationships, Corned Neighborhood Hero, V103's hometown hero award, and many more. You are welcomed to check out Kidz Korna's videos on Youtube.

Kidz Korna, NFP - 773-957-6422

Youth Organization *Tele\iston Show *New 50+ Movement Mailing Address: 7901S. Ashland Ave., Chicago IL 60620 www.thekidzkorna.com <<http://www.thekidzkorna.com>>
[fcKidzkorna^Jiotmailcom](mailto:fcKidzkorna@Jiotmailcom) / new50inc.com <<http://new50inc.com>>