

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF
THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, ACCEPTING THE
RECOMMENDATION OF THE FINANCE AND CITYWIDE
PROJECTS COMMITTEE AT THE SEPTEMBER 20, 2019
MEETING, TO APPROVE FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$35,000
TO AYUDA, INC. FOR A PILOT PROGRAM TO PROVIDE
CHILDCARE SUBSIDIES TO LOW-INCOME NORTH BEACH
RESIDENTS WITH CHILDREN WHOSE PARENTS ARE
SEEKING EMPLOYMENT.**

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Commission made a referral to the Finance and Citywide Projects Committee ("FCWPC") to discuss the use of childcare subsidies for use by North Beach parents seeking employment; and

WHEREAS, at the September 20, 2019 meeting, the FCWPC discussed and unanimously approved the award of \$35,000 to Ayuda, Inc. ("Ayuda") for a pilot program to provide childcare subsidies to low-income North Beach residents with children whose parents are seeking employment (the "Program"); and

WHEREAS, Ayuda is a local, non-profit agency that provides a variety of services to city residents including child and teen counseling, parenting skills training, tutoring, and crisis intervention, among others; and

WHEREAS, Ayuda submitted the attached proposal to Vice-Mayor Ricky Arriola, proposing a recurring line item in its financial plan in the amount of \$35,000 in the 2019/2020 budget, to aid 17 to 34 children of low-income families receive childcare in a safe, learning environment with professionals that will be able to guide the families into employment and to become nurturing parents; and

WHEREAS, the Program would serve children living in North Beach with seven to 10 hours of childcare per day for three months at Happy Kids Childcare, a for-profit childcare provider) and

WHEREAS, the reduced rate would be \$100 per child for service from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., which represents 50% of the regular rate for these services; and

WHEREAS, the maximum service length of the Program would be six months, with Program participants evaluated on the third month for ongoing services, and with the conclusion of the program once parents find stable employment; and

WHEREAS, high quality childcare is seen as an economic empowerment tool for low-income parents and their children as noted by a 35-year study of childcare programs in North Carolina that found that families (specifically mothers) with access to free, high quality child care earned more compared to the control group, who used poorer quality child care or stayed home instead of entering the workforce; and

WHEREAS, the study found that the positive impact continued as the children became preschool-aged and the parents accessing the high-quality childcare earned more than the parents in the control group who either stayed home with their children or used poorer quality

childcare providers; and

WHEREAS, the benefits extended directly to the children attending high-quality daycare, who eventually achieved two more years of education and earned about \$2,500 per year more by age 30 than their control group counterparts; and

WHEREAS, the City has previously used Community Development Block Grant ("CDBG") funds to support childcare services for low-income families at Rainbow Intergenerational Child Care and Raindrop Child Care at Feinberg Fisher K-8 Center, specifically targeting low-income households eligible for federal aid; and

WHEREAS, while only 16.6 % of the City's residents live in poverty according to the U.S. Census Bureau, economic empowerment of low-income families remains an area for improvement; and

WHEREAS, City's 2019 *Strategic Plan: Through the Lens of Resilience* prioritizes educational excellence as a management objective; in addition, the Resilient Greater Miami and the Beach *Resilient 305* plan identifies the need to build an inclusive economy in order to strengthen economic resilience; and

WHEREAS, clearing the pathway to careers for many will require overcoming the absence of childcare for their children who have yet to attain school-age and as such, the Administration recommends the Mayor and the City Commission accept the FCWPC's recommendation to award \$35,000.00 to Ayuda for a pilot program to provide childcare subsidies to low-income North Beach residents with children whose parents are seeking employment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, that the Mayor and City Commission hereby accept the recommendation of the Finance and Citywide Projects Committee at the September 20, 2019 meeting, to approve funds in the amount of \$35,000 to Ayuda, Inc. for a pilot program to provide childcare subsidies for low-income North Beach residents with children whose parents are seeking employment.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 16th day of October, 2019.

ATTEST:

Dan Gelber, Mayor

Rafael E. Granado, City Clerk

(Sponsored by Vice-Mayor Ricky Arriola)

APPROVED AS TO
FORM & LANGUAGE
& FOR EXECUTION

City Attorney

10-1-19

Date