RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE AGREEMENTS WITH THE MIAMI BEACH POLICE ATHLETIC LEAGUE, INC. ("MBPAL") AND THE MIAMI BEACH CHAMBER EDUCATION FOUNDATION, INC. ("MBCEF") TO PROVIDE FUNDING TO FIRST GENERATION COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS FOR MIAMI BEACH RESIDENTS THROUGH AGREEMENTS WITH FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION, INC. AS PART OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA 2:1 MATCHING GRANT, WITH THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF FUNDING FROM THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH NOT TO EXCEED $28,000 FOR SCHOOL YEAR 2022-23, AND $3,500 EACH FROM THE MBPAL AND MBCEF AND EACH SUBSEQUENT YEAR, SUBJECT TO FUNDING APPROVAL DURING THE CITY'S BUDGETARY PROCESS; AND FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS OR AGREEMENTS IN CONNECTION WITH THE PROGRAM.

WHEREAS, in January 2008, the City of Miami Beach, Florida ("City") entered into an Education Compact with Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) to enhance learning opportunities for youth; and

WHEREAS, the Education Compact reflects the desire of the Miami Beach community to support excellence in the City's public schools; and

WHEREAS, the Florida International University (FIU) First Generation Scholarship Program is supported by an innovative matching grant program established in 2006 by the Florida Legislature; and

WHEREAS, the program provides financial support to qualified undergraduate FIU students who are the first generation in their families to attain a college degree; and

WHEREAS, this program is the only one of its kind in the state of Florida to match private donations for first generation scholarships, providing financial assistance for students to attend a state university or state college; and

WHEREAS, to date, FIU has awarded over 15,300 scholarships for critical financial support for FIU students; and

WHEREAS, the need, however, is far greater than the available resources – currently, less than one in seven eligible students receives a First Generation Scholarship; and

WHEREAS, as a result, many talented and highly motivated students with limited resources are forced to attend only part-time or postpone their education altogether; and

WHEREAS, the First Generation Scholarship Program is, therefore, a vital source of financial support for many of FIU's underserved, low-income students that bridges the gap between their financial aid funding and their unmet need to fund their cost of attendance at FIU; and

WHEREAS, increased scholarship and program financial aid are critical to ensure that all deserving students receive the assistance needed to enroll, succeed, and graduate.; and

WHEREAS, FIU serves more than 58,000 students, 70% of whom are undergraduates, approximately 90% of FIU undergraduate students are minorities, and nearly 25% self-identify as first generation college students; and

WHEREAS, first generation students are more likely than their peers to come from lower-earning households, and yet, despite the significant need, a high percentage of FIU students receive only partial financial aid, and many students eligible for First Generation Scholarships remain unfunded; and

WHEREAS, in 2020-21, donor investment and state-matched funds supported 889 students, while 6,555 (88.1%) students did not receive funding; and

WHEREAS, investing in FIU's First Generation Scholarship Program will benefit not only the students, but the greater Miami Beach community; and

WHEREAS, the City of Miami Beach will contribute $28,000 for First Generation Scholarships and partner with the Miami Beach Police Athletic League, Inc. ("MBPAL") which will contribute $3,500, and the Miami Beach Chamber Education Foundation, Inc. ("MBCEF") which will also contribute $3,500, for total investment in the FIU First Generation Scholarship in the amount of $35,000; and

WHEREAS, the Florida state matching funds will provide an additional $70,000 which is a 2:1 match yielding a total amount of $105,000 for FIU first-generation scholarships; and

WHEREAS, approximately 30 students who are residents of the City would receive a $3,500 scholarship in the 2022-23 school year; and

WHEREAS, funding will be prioritized to meet the needs of students who are degree-seeking undergrad students with a permanent address in the City and with zip codes of 33139, 33140, and 33141 (only residents in the City) with a preference for First Time in College (FTIC) students; and

WHEREAS, should there be no eligible FTIC students, other Miami Beach students will be eligible, and funding will be awarded based on financial need as indicated by the FAFSA "unmet need" of the student; and

WHEREAS, in an event where there will not be enough students eligible to award the funds that meet these criteria, funds will be rolled over to the following year or scholarship amounts per student can be increased; and

WHEREAS, scholarships may be renewable upon meeting certain criteria including recipients demonstrating financial need by completing the national Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and being eligible for a Pell Grant, recipients must also be the first generation in their family to attain a college bachelor's degree (students whose siblings have attained or are pursuing a degree are also eligible, recipients must be residents of the State of Florida, be enrolled in or accepted for admission to the FIU, and be a degree-seeking undergraduate student enrolled for a minimum of six credit hours per semester.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT DULY RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, that the Mayor and City Commission hereby approve and authorize the City Manager and City Clerk to execute agreements with the Miami Beach Police Athletic League, Inc. ("MBPAL") and the Miami Beach Chamber Education Foundation, Inc. ("MBCEF") to provide funding to First Generation College Scholarships for Miami Beach residents through agreements with Florida International University Foundation, Inc. as part of the State of Florida 2:1 matching grant, with the total amount of funding from the City of Miami Beach not to exceed $28,000 for School Year 2022-23, and $3,500 each from the MBPAL and MBCEF and each subsequent year, subject to funding approval during the City's budgetary process; and further authorize the City Manager to execute any and all documents or agreements in connection with the program.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this ____ day of September, 2022.

ATTEST:

_____
Dan Gelber, Mayor

_____
Rafael Granado, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO
FORM & LANGUAGE
& FOR EXECUTION

_____ 8-30-22
City Attorney Date