

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, DIRECTING THE ADMINISTRATION TO TAKE THE FOLLOWING STEPS: (1) RENEGOTIATE THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE CITY AND THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY HOMELESS TRUST, MODIFYING THE CURRENT TERMS AND PROVIDING FOR THE CONTRIBUTION OF \$1 MILLION BY THE CITY IN LIEU OF \$2 MILLION, SUBJECT TO SUBSEQUENT CITY COMMISSION APPROVAL; (2) ENTER INTO NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE MIAMI CENTER FOR MENTAL HEALTH AND RECOVERY (THE "CENTER") FOR A FUNDING AGREEMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1 MILLION TO FACILITATE THE OPENING OF, AND/OR INITIAL PROGRAMMING FOR, THE CENTER TO ENABLE THE CENTER TO PROACTIVELY ADDRESS THE ISSUE OF HOMELESSNESS WITHIN THE COMMUNITY, SUBJECT TO REVIEW AND APPROVAL BY CITY COMMISSION.

WHEREAS, Miami-Dade County is home to the largest percentage of people with serious mental illnesses of any urban community in the United States; and

WHEREAS, while rates of serious mental illnesses are two to three times the national average in Miami-Dade County, the state's spending per capita for community-based treatment ranks 49th nationally among all states and the District of Columbia¹; and

WHEREAS, individuals unable to access treatment in the community are at increased risk of becoming involved in the criminal justice system and experience chronic homelessness; and

WHEREAS, in fact, the Miami-Dade County Jail now serves as the largest psychiatric institution in Florida, containing as many beds for people with mental illnesses as all state civil and forensic mental health treatment facilities combined; and

WHEREAS, Miami-Dade County, under the leadership of Judge Steven Leifman, has been working with the Eleventh Judicial Circuit Criminal Mental Health Project and stakeholders from across the community to plan and develop a first-of-its-kind mental health diversion and treatment facility for individuals with serious mental illnesses involved in or at risk of becoming involved in the criminal justice system; and

WHEREAS, the Miami Center for Mental Health and Recovery (the "Center") aims to create a comprehensive and coordinated system of care for individuals with serious mental illnesses who are frequent and costly recidivists to the criminal justice system, homeless continuum of care, and acute care medical and mental health treatment systems; and

WHEREAS, the Center will operate from a fully renovated facility designed to house services that are difficult to access or unavailable elsewhere in the community; and

¹ Based on prevalence rates of serious mental illnesses reported by the National Institute of Mental Health:

<http://www.nimh.nih.gov/health/statistics/prevalence/serious-mental-illness-smi-among-us-adults.shtml>
<http://www.treatmentadvocacycenter.org/storage/documents/smi-prevalence-chart.pdf>

WHEREAS, the building will include a central receiving center, an integrated crisis stabilization unit and addiction receiving facility, various levels of residential treatment, transitional housing, day treatment and day activity programs, outpatient behavioral health and primary care, dental and optometry services, vocational rehabilitation and employment services, classrooms and educational spaces, post-treatment housing assistance, a courtroom, and space for legal and social service agencies.; and

WHEREAS, by housing a comprehensive array of services and supports in one location, and providing re-entry assistance upon discharge, many of the barriers to navigating community mental health and social services will be eliminated; and

WHEREAS, the services planned for the Center will address critical treatment needs that have gone unmet in the past and reduce the likelihood of recidivism to the justice system, crisis settings, and homelessness in the future; and

WHEREAS, on September 13, 2023, the Mayor and City Commission adopted Resolution No. 2023-32780, approving the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the City of Miami Beach (City) and the Miami-Dade County Homeless Trust (Homeless Trust) providing for the contribution of \$2 million by the City in exchange for set-asides for Miami Beach persons experiencing homelessness of forty-five (45) units at Blue Village, located at 18055 SW 12th street, Miami, FL 33194 and ten (10) beds at Mia Casa, located at 12221 Harriet Tubman Highway, North Miami, FL 33161; and

WHEREAS, the Parties agreed to the following terms, subject to approval by the Miami-Dade Public Housing Committee and the Miami-Dade County Board of Commissioners: (1) to leave the 90% housing retention performance indicator as an aspirational goal; (2) to add a 60% housing retention performance indicator requirement (the "60% Requirement") with a termination right in favor of the City if the Homeless Trust fails to achieve the 60% Requirement and fails to take curative measures that are acceptable to the City in its sole discretion within one hundred twenty (120) days from the date of issuance of the Annual Report reflecting the failure; and

WHEREAS, to date, the MOU has not yet been executed by the Parties; and

WHEREAS, the issue of homelessness within our community is complex and multifaceted, and is often intertwined with mental health challenges; and

WHEREAS, addressing the root causes of homelessness is not merely about providing temporary shelter – addressing causes such as mental health disorders and substance abuse is crucial for effective long-term solutions, as they often lie at the root of homelessness, exacerbating individuals' vulnerability and making it difficult for them to maintain stable housing and employment; and

WHEREAS, redirecting part of the funds from the Homeless Trust Fund to the Center will enable the organization to expand its programs and outreach efforts, ultimately benefiting individuals experiencing homelessness by providing them with comprehensive mental health services and support; and

WHEREAS, investing in mental health resources is a proactive approach to addressing homelessness at one of its root causes and will help prevent individuals from falling into homelessness in the first place, and promote the well-being and stability of our community as a whole; and

WHEREAS, accordingly, the Mayor and City Commission desire to direct the Administration to take the following steps: (1) renegotiate the MOU between the City and the Homeless Trust, modifying the current terms and providing for the contribution of \$1 million by the City in lieu of \$2 million, subject to subsequent City Commission approval; (2) enter into negotiations with the Miami Center for Mental Health and Recovery for a funding contribution of \$1 million to facilitate the operationalization of the Center at the earliest and to proactively address the issue of homelessness within our community, subject to review and approval by City Commission.

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 direct the Administration to take the following steps: (1) renegotiate the Memorandum of Understanding between the City and the Miami-Dade County Homeless Trust, modifying the current terms and providing for the contribution of \$1 million by the City in lieu of \$2 million, subject to subsequent City Commission approval; (2) enter into negotiations with the Miami Center for Mental Health and Recovery (the "Center") for a funding agreement in the amount of \$1 million to facilitate the opening of, and/or initial programming for, the Center at the earliest and to enable the Center to proactively address the issue of homelessness within the community, subject to review and approval by City Commission.

PASSED and ADOPTED THIS ____ day of _____ 2024.

ATTEST:

Steven Meiner
Mayor

Rafael E. Granado
City Clerk

(sponsored by Commissioner Kristen Rosen Gonzalez)

APPROVED AS TO
FORM & LANGUAGE
& FOR EXECUTION



City Attorney

5/7/2024

Date