



**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF COOK COUNTY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**Cook County Building, Board Room,  
118 North Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois**

**BOARD NOTICE AND AGENDA**

**Thursday, July 24, 2025, 9:00 AM**

**Consent Meeting - Issued on: 7/18/2025**

**PUBLIC TESTIMONY**

Authorization as a public speaker shall only be granted to those individuals who have registered to speak, with the Secretary, 24 hours in advance of the meeting. To register as a public speaker, go to the meeting details page for this meeting at <https://cook-county.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx> to find a registration link. Duly authorized public speakers may speak live from the County Board Room at 118 N. Clark Street, 5th Floor, Chicago, IL or be sent a link to virtually attend the meeting and will be called upon to deliver testimony at a time specified in the meeting agenda. Authorized public speakers who are not present during the specified time for public testimony will forfeit their allotted time to speak at the meeting. Public testimony must not exceed three minutes; the Secretary will keep track of the time and advise when the time for public testimony has expired. After each virtual speaker has completed their statement, they will be removed from the meeting. Once removed, you will still be able to follow the proceedings for that day at:

<https://www.cookcountyl.gov/service/watch-live-board-proceedings> or in a viewing area at 69 W. Washington Street, 22nd Floor Conference Room F, Chicago, IL. Persons authorized to provide public testimony shall not use vulgar, abusive, or otherwise inappropriate language when addressing the Board; failure to act appropriately; failure to speak to an item that is germane to the meeting, or failure to adhere to the time requirements may result in expulsion from the meeting and/or disqualify the person from providing future testimony. Written comments will not be read aloud at the meeting, but will be posted on the meeting page and made a part of the meeting record.

[25-2974](#)

**Sponsored by:** TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), Cook County Board of Commissioners

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION****2025 UNITED NEGRO COLLEGE FUND NATIONAL WALK FOR EDUCATION**

**WHEREAS**, in 1943, Dr. Frederick D. Patterson, president of Tuskegee Institute suggested to the presidents of other private black colleges that they pool their monies and make a united appeal to the national conscience; and

**WHEREAS**, on April 25, 1944, the United Negro College Fund (“UNCF”) was incorporated with twenty-seven member colleges as a not-for-profit entity established to assist its member institutions of higher education to raise funds from the public for their mutual support; and

**WHEREAS**, the importance of UNCF, and the historically Black colleges and universities it supports, promotes the value of higher education as well as the traditional values of family and heritage that have made this nation great; and

**WHEREAS**, over the past seven decades UNCF has grown to become the nation’s oldest and most successful African American higher education assistance organization in the country by having raised

more than \$5 billion and having helped more than 500,000 students not just attend college, but thrive, graduate, and become leaders; and

**WHEREAS**, each year UNCF awards more than 10,000 student scholarships worth more than \$100 million and provides financial support to 37 member institutions; and

**WHEREAS**, each year UNCF raises funds through various campaigns, initiatives and events including an annual Walk for Education in various cities of the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, the Annual UNCF Chicago Walk for Education is being held on Saturday, September 13, 2025; and

**WHEREAS**, Cook County has proudly supported UNCF's efforts for more than 30 years; and

**WHEREAS**, Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle is an honorary chair for the 2025 UNCF Chicago Walk for Education.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the President and the Cook County Board of Commissioners, do hereby recognize and express Cook County's support for the 2025 UNCF Chicago Walk for Education and commitment to provide assistance and resources to ensure its success; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that under the leadership of the Bureau of Administration, various Cook County departments and agencies will collaborate with UNCF to plan, coordinate, and otherwise support the 2025 UNCF Chicago Walk for Education; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Bureau of Administration shall be further authorized to utilize County resources, as necessary, to promote, plan and otherwise support the 2025 UNCF Chicago Walk for Education; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the President and Cook County Board of Commissioners do hereby acknowledge and commend the UNCF for its continued positive impact throughout the United States and express the County's sincere appreciation and gratitude for selecting President Preckwinkle as the honorary chair of the 2025 UNCF Chicago Walk for Education; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to UNCF in expressing Cook County's well wishes for a successful 2025 UNCF Walk for Education.

[25-3228](#)

**Sponsored by:** TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), Cook County Board of Commissioners

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**COOK COUNTY HONORED WITH 78 NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS**

**WHEREAS**, Cook County was honored with 78 Achievement Awards from the National Association of Counties (NACo), the highest number of awards the County has ever received; and

**WHEREAS**, the NACo awards honor innovative, effective county government programs that strengthen services for residents; and

**WHEREAS**, the recognition of so many essential programs and initiatives led by Cook County is a source of pride for the President and Board of Commissioners and provides Cook County employees with well-deserved recognition; and

**WHEREAS**, this level of excellence in innovation and execution is attained through the ingenuity and hard work of the Cook County employees who have launched these critical programs for our residents; and

**WHEREAS**, Offices Under the President received 48 awards:

Office of the President (2): “Digital Inclusion Week”, and “Commercial Valuation Study”

Bureau of Administration (22): “Access Pilot Program: The Income-Based Reduced Transit Fare Benefit in Cook County, Illinois”, “Re-envisioning Mobility in the Cook County Transit Plan”, “Snow and Ice Control Chloride Reduction Initiative”, “Chicago Region Environmental and Transportation Efficiency Program”, “Equitable Access to Digital Legal Research for the Self-Represented - Free, 24/7, and Remote”, “Healthy Homes for Healthy Families”, “Climate Resiliency Planning for Communities”, “Medical Examiner Case Archive Dashboard”, “Ambient Air Monitoring Network Enhancements”, “Preparing First Responders for a National Special Security Event: 2024 Democratic National Convention Training and Exercise Plan”, “Planning Complexities: Operation Gunslinger: Brookfield Zoo-Riverside High School Active Shooter Functional Exercise Program”, “Disaster Response and Recovery Fund”, “Emergency Planning Assistance Program”, “Businesses Reducing Impact on the Environment (BRITE) Grant Program”, “Halloween Rabid Bat Map”, “Unidentified Persons Project”, “Safety Handling Series”, “Environmental Justice”, “Streamlined Fellowship Process”, “Annual NACo Awards Ceremony”, “Owned Furniture Hub”, and “Black History Month Highlight Series”

Bureau of Asset Management (8): “Lead Service Line Replacement Funding Liaison Assistance”, “Solar and Battery Powered Electric Vehicle Charging Station Pilot Project: Department of Corrections and Maywood Courthouse”, “Build Up Cook Capacity Building Workshops”, “John H. Stroger Emergency

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Entrance and Site Upgrades - Summer Safety Plan”, “Bronzeville Health Center Adaptive”, “Rebuilding Together”, “Oak Forest Salvage Program”, and “Intermediate Greenhouse Gas Goal Achievement”

Bureau of Economic Development (8): “Cook County Cannabis Development Grant”, “Tourism Alive”, “Employee-Facing Operations Team and Core Administrative Infrastructure”, “Dollar\$ and Sen\$e”, “Collaborative System to Set, Vet, and Utilize Program Metrics”, “Cook County ARTS - Nonprofit Relief Grants”, “Manufacturing Through Good Jobs Chicagoland”, and “Opportunity Works - Investing in Youth and Families”

Human Rights and Ethics (3): “Case Management System Launch”, “Doing Business Database”, and “2024 Fair Housing Advertising Campaign”; and

Bureau of Finance (2): “EOY Fiscal Closure Process Improvement Project”, and “Improving Operational Efficiency and Innovation: The Finance Transformation Office”

Bureau of Human Resources (1): “Modernizing Recruitment and Process Efficiencies”

Bureau of Technology (1): “Developing CookViewer 3.0 - A Modernized Property Information Application”

Justice Advisory Council (1): “Community of Care: Human-Centered Leadership Development for Cook County Supported Community-Based Organizations”; and

**WHEREAS**, Cook County Health and Hospitals received 19 awards: “EMT-B Apprenticeship Program”, “Value Based Care Program - Credit Where Credit is Due” “Transforming Maternal and Child Health: Cook County Health's Comprehensive Women and Children's Service Line”, “Empowering Nurses Through Engagement: The Journey to Nursing Excellence at CCH”, “Nursing Innovation & Research Center: Structural Empowerment in Nursing to Drive Innovation, Research, and Excellence”, “Cook County Health Meets the Specialty Care Needs of Cook County’s Largest Underserved Communities: Neurocritical Care at CCH.”, “Revenue Cycle Management’s (RCM) Turnaround Project: Supporting the Health System with Financial, Operational and Patient Experience Improvements”, “Launching of the Office of Behavioral Health to Improve the Landscape of Behavioral Healthcare Throughout Cook County”, “Good Food Purchasing Program”, “CountyCare Access: Providing Health Benefits for Immigrants Adults and Immigrant Seniors in Cook County”, “Surgical Robotic Program Helps Cook County Health Improve Patient Outcomes and Health Equity”, “Cook County HIV Integrated Programs”, “Driving Healthcare Equity with Advanced Technology Solutions”, “CCDPH Unfriend Tobacco Media Campaign”, “Cook County Healthy Work Initiative, Worker Protection Program”, “The Data Ambassadors Program”, and “The Emerging Leaders Program”, and “Eliminating Lead from Drinking Water for Illinois Families with Medicaid”; and “Cook County Health Meets the Specialty Care Needs of Cook County’s Largest Underserved Communities”, and

**WHEREAS**, the Assessor’s Office received three awards: “Building Partnerships with the Local Business Community & Commercial Industry”, and “Explaining the Property Tax System Using Plain

Language and Inclusive Communication Strategies”, “Empowering Homeowners Through Community Engagement and Trust”; and

**WHEREAS**, the Office of the Chief Judge received one award: “Restorative Justice Community Courts of Cook County”; and

**WHEREAS**, the Forest Preserve received recognition for one award: “Des Plaines River Trail”; and

**WHEREAS**, the Cook County Land Bank received recognition for one award: “Cook County Land Bank Authority's Equity Fund Purchase Assistance Program”; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Review received four awards: “Cook County Board of Review District 2 STARA Program”, “Cook County Board of Review District 2 Outreach Program”, “Cook County Board of Review District 2 Education Program” and “Property Tax Appeal Board Defense Initiative”; and

**WHEREAS**, the Cook County Clerk’s Office received one award: “Employee-Built Enterprise Software Solution”; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the President and the Cook County Board of Commissioners do hereby extend hearty congratulations to the Cook County employees who have worked so diligently to ensure the success of the 78 programs recognized by the National Association of Counties Achievement Awards, more information about which may be found on the National Association of Counties website ([www.naco.org](http://www.naco.org)).

[25-3428](#)

**Sponsored by:** JOHN P. DALEY, TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), FRANK J. AGUILAR, ALMA E. ANAYA, SCOTT R. BRITTON, BRIDGET DEGNEN, BRIDGET GAINER, BILL LOWRY, DR. KISHA E. McCASKILL, DONNA MILLER, STANLEY MOORE, JOSINA MORITA, KEVIN B. MORRISON, SEAN M. MORRISON, MICHAEL SCOTT JR., TARA S. STAMPS, MAGGIE TREVOR and JESSICA VÁSQUEZ, Cook County Board of Commissioners

#### **PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

#### **RESOLUTION DESIGNATING AUGUST 10TH SIX TRIPLE EIGHT DAY**

**WHEREAS**, Cook County takes pride in honoring those who have served our nation with distinction, and in uplifting the stories of those whose contributions have too often gone unrecognized; and

**WHEREAS**, The 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion, known as the “Six Triple Eight”, was the only all-Black, all-female battalion deployed overseas during World War II; and

**WHEREAS**, The Six Triple Eight bravely served in the European Theater, tasked with clearing an

overwhelming backlog of undelivered mail- restoring the morale of millions of American service members; and

**WHEREAS,** These heroic women operated in segregated conditions and under the constant threat of attack, yet completed their mission in record time, processing millions of pieces of mail with exceptional efficiency and accuracy; and

**WHEREAS,** Sixty of the battalion's members called Illinois home, and several were born, raised, or educated in Cook County; and

**WHEREAS,** In 2025, the United States Congress awarded the 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion the Congressional Gold Medal (the highest civilian award by the U.S. government given to an individual or group), recognizing their critical contributions to the war effort and the cause of equality; and

**WHEREAS,** March 9 has been recognized in other states as "Six Triple Eight Day," marking the date the battalion arrived in Birmingham, England to begin their vital mission; and

**WHEREAS,** The County of Cook is proud to join this growing chorus of remembrance and recognition for the Six Triple Eight; and

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Cook County Board of Commissioners does hereby declare August 10, 2025 as SIX TRIPLE EIGHT DAY in Cook County, IL., and urge all residents to honor the service, sacrifice, and legacy of the women of the 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion

[25-3234](#)

**Sponsored by:** JOHN P. DALEY, TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), FRANK J. AGUILAR, ALMA E. ANAYA, SCOTT R. BRITTON, BRIDGET DEGNEN, BRIDGET GAINER, BILL LOWRY, DR. KISHA E. McCASKILL, DONNA MILLER, STANLEY MOORE, JOSINA MORITA, KEVIN B. MORRISON, SEAN M. MORRISON, MICHAEL SCOTT JR., TARA S. STAMPS, MAGGIE TREVOR and JESSICA VÁSQUEZ, Cook County Board of Commissioners

#### **PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

#### **SISTER ROSEMARY CONNELLY, RSM., IN MEMORIAM**

**WHEREAS,** Almighty God in His infinite wisdom has called Sister Rosemary Connelly from our midst; and

**WHEREAS,** Sister Rosemary Connelly was the devoted daughter of the late Peter and Bridget Connelly of County Mayo Ireland; and

**WHEREAS,** Sister Rosemary Connelly was the loving sister of the late Marie (late Ed) O'Brien, Kathryn (late Robert), the late Donald Connelly, the late Joe (late Patricia) Connelly, and the late Patricia (late

Bob) Martin; and

**WHEREAS**, Sister Rosemary Connelly was the dear aunt to many nieces, nephews, grandnieces and grandnephews, and great-grandnieces and great grandnephews; and

**WHEREAS**, Sister Rosemary Connelly grew up in Chicago, where she attended Chicago parochial schools. Her family's deep faith and service to God led Sister Rosemary to join the Sisters of Mercy when she was 18 years old. Sister Rosemary's motto "Love Serves Joyfully" was inscribed in her professional ring she wore throughout her service; and

**WHEREAS**, Sister Rosemary Connelly earned a Bachelor of Social Science from St. Xavier University, a Master of Arts in Sociology from St. Louis University and a Master of Social Work from Loyola University. Sister Rosemary was awarded the University of Notre Dame's 2023 Laetare Medal, the oldest and most prestigious honor given to an American Catholic. Sister Rosemary received nine honorary degrees including the Order of the Lincoln Medallion (Illinois' highest award for lifelong outstanding achievements), the Illinois Entrepreneur of the Year Award from Ernst & Young, and a Caring Institute award which named her one of the most caring people in America; and

**WHEREAS**, Sister Rosemary Connelly served as a teacher, social worker and for 56 years as administrator of Misericordia Heart of Mercy which she was appointed to in 1969. In 1976 Sister Rosemary, along with 39 children and 35 staff moved Misericordia from the Southside to their new home on the Northside of Chicago. Today they serve more than 600 adults and children with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Through Sister Rosemary's guidance, Misericordia touches families and supporters from all backgrounds. She was instrumental in developing compassionate care for those with disabilities that is the cornerstone of one of the nations leading communities for adults and children disabilities and their families; and

**WHEREAS**, Sister Rosemary Connelly always credited her staff and the residents for making Misericordia an extraordinary place. She believed everyone is a gift and loved by God with a purpose in life; and

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Commissioners of Cook County that the Board does hereby extend its deepest condolences and most heartfelt sympathy to the family of Sister Rosemary Connelly, her Misericordia family and the many friends and joins them in sorrow at this time of loss; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this text be spread upon the official proceedings of this Honorable Body, and a suitable copy of the same be tendered to the family of Sister Rosemary Connelly so that her memory may be so honored and ever cherished.



[25-3426](#)

**Sponsored by:** BRIDGET GAINER, Cook County Board of Commissioners

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**RESOLUTION CELEBRATING THE COMPLETION OF THE CTA RED-PURPLE MODERNIZATION PROJECT IN COOK COUNTY'S 10TH DISTRICT**

**WHEREAS**, the Chicago Transit Authority (CTA) has successfully completed a significant portion of the Red and Purple Modernization (RPM) Project, specifically the reconstruction of the stations and track structure between Lawrence and Bryn Mawr Avenues; and

**WHEREAS**, this transformative infrastructure effort is located in Cook County's 10th District and encompasses the complete rebuilding of four critical CTA stations: Lawrence, Argyle, Berwyn, and Bryn Mawr; and

**WHEREAS**, the RPM Phase One Project represents the largest capital improvement in CTA's history and addresses a transit corridor that is more than a century old, benefiting tens of thousands of daily riders who depend on this essential public transit service; and

**WHEREAS**, the modernization work involved the complete demolition and reconstruction of century-old track structure, replacement of track and signals, and the creation of four fully accessible, modern stations that provide faster, safer, and more reliable service; and

**WHEREAS**, this project included the construction of new track support structures using an innovative phased approach to minimize service disruptions, along with enhancements to station platforms, lighting, safety systems, accessibility through elevators and ramps, and improved aesthetics and comfort for commuters; and

**WHEREAS**, the RPM project was made possible through the commitment and vision of local, state, and federal leaders, with funding sources including \$1.03 billion in federal grants from the U.S. Department of Transportation's Core Capacity Improvement program, matched with state and local funding, including resources from the State of Illinois' Rebuild Illinois capital program and Transit TIF funds; and

**WHEREAS**, the leadership and advocacy of elected officials were instrumental in securing the necessary support for the RPM project.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Cook County Board of Commissioners hereby

celebrates the successful completion of the Red-Purple Modernization Project from Lawrence to Bryn Mawr in Cook County's 10th District, honors the commitment and partnership of the CTA, construction workers, engineers, and planners who brought this project to fruition, and expresses deep appreciation to the elected officials whose leadership helped secure the resources to improve transit equity, access, and infrastructure for generations to come; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to the Chicago Transit Authority and other key partners as a token of this Board's recognition and appreciation.

[25-3425](#)

**Sponsored by:** BRIDGET GAINER, Cook County Board of Commissioners

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING INDEPENDENT RETAILER MONTH AND HONORING THE CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE IN COOK COUNTY'S 10TH DISTRICT**

**WHEREAS**, Independent Retailer Month is celebrated each July to highlight the importance of small, locally owned businesses to our communities, economies, and neighborhoods; and

**WHEREAS**, independent retailers are the backbone of Cook County's diverse economy, providing jobs, goods, services, and community spaces that enrich the lives of residents and visitors alike; and

**WHEREAS**, the 10th District of Cook County is home to vibrant and resilient business corridors that thrive thanks to the tireless efforts of local Chambers of Commerce; and

**WHEREAS**, these Chambers of Commerce advocate for neighborhood businesses, provide essential programming and technical assistance, organize community events, promote shop-local campaigns, and foster connections among business owners, residents, and local government; and

**WHEREAS**, the following Chambers of Commerce, serving communities in the 10th District, are deserving of special recognition for their ongoing contributions to the vitality and sustainability of the local economy:

- Andersonville Chamber of Commerce
- Edgewater Chamber of Commerce
- Lincoln Square Ravenswood Chamber of Commerce
- Uptown Chamber of Commerce

- Lakeview East Chamber of Commerce
- Northalsted Business Alliance
- Jefferson Park Chamber of Commerce
- Edgebrook-Sauganash Chamber of Commerce
- Edison Park Chamber of Commerce
- Albany Park Chamber of Commerce

**WHEREAS**, these organizations work year-round to uplift small businesses by strengthening commercial corridors, supporting minority- and women-owned enterprises, helping entrepreneurs navigate city and county resources, and championing equitable economic development; and

**WHEREAS**, during Independent Retailer Month, Cook County joins communities across the country in celebrating the spirit, dedication, and impact of local business owners and those who support them; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Cook County Board of Commissioners hereby recognizes July as **Independent Retailer Month** and commends the vital role of independent retailers in fostering economic opportunity and vibrant communities; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this Board honors the **Andersonville, Edgewater, Lincoln Square Ravenswood, Uptown, Lakeview East, Northalsted, Jefferson Park, Edgebrook-Sauganash, Edison Park, and Albany Park Chambers of Commerce** for their unwavering commitment to promoting, protecting, and supporting local businesses in Cook County's 10th District; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to each of the Chambers of Commerce as a token of appreciation and gratitude for their leadership and service.

[25-3254](#)

**Sponsored by:** DONNA MILLER, FRANK J. AGUILAR, SCOTT R. BRITTON, JOHN P. DALEY, BRIDGET DEGNEN, STANLEY MOORE, MICHAEL SCOTT JR., KEVIN B. MORRISON, MAGGIE TREVOR and JESSICA VÁSQUEZ, Cook County Board of Commissioners

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**RECOGNIZING NATIONAL MINORITY MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH IN COOK COUNTY**

**WHEREAS**, the month of July is National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month, a month-long initiative to bring awareness to the unique mental health struggles of all racial and ethnic minorities and American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) populations across the country; and

**WHEREAS**, National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month was brought before Congress, to be formally recognized on June 2, 2008, in honor of Bebe Moore Campbell with the goal of bringing forth solutions to the unique mental health struggles of racial and ethnic minorities; and

**WHEREAS**, mental health includes our emotional, psychological, and social well-being, and effects how we think, feel, and act, and helps determine how we handle stress, relate to others, and make choices; and

**WHEREAS**, racial and ethnic minority populations experience numerous mental health disparities including higher rates of attempted suicide in adolescents and lower treatment rates for mental disorders like depression in adults; and

**WHEREAS**, limited access to culturally and linguistically appropriate services; and stigma surrounding mental health care and social determinates of health are factors that can lead to poor mental health outcomes for racial and ethnic minority; and

**WHEREAS**, in Mental Health America's 2024 state ranking report, Illinois ranked 15th overall, which indicates lower prevalence of mental illness and higher rates of access to care compared to lower ranked states; and

**WHEREAS**, despite Illinois's overall ranking, according to BMC Public Health, many minority groups in Illinois have disproportionate differences in access to health care which affects their health-related quality of life; and

**WHEREAS**, despite experiencing mental health issues at a similar rate to white Americans, among adults who report fair or poor mental health, minority groups are less likely to say they received mental health services in the past three years with Black adults (39%) and Hispanic adults (36%) compared to White adults (50%); and

**WHEREAS**, provider bias is a cause of mental health disparities among minorities, documented by the American Psychological Association (APA) 2023 report highlights that only 18% of psychologists identify as racial or ethnic minorities, compared to over 40% of the U.S. population. Specifically, 6% identify as Black/African American, 8% as Hispanic/Latino, 4% as Asian, and less than 1% as Native American; and

**WHEREAS**, diverse psychologists bring unique perspectives, improving the understanding and treatment of clients from varied backgrounds, and help bridge gaps in mental health disparities among underserved populations, underscoring the importance of improving the access to quality education and financial resources for students to pursue a career in behavioral health; and

**WHEREAS**, this year's National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month theme, "Turn Awareness into Action" calls on each of us to explore ways to strengthen our mental health through practices that reflect our values, our culture, and our needs; and

**WHEREAS**, although the mental health of individuals from different generations may be equally affected by racism and discrimination, they may face unique mental health challenges based on their age. Each age group also has their own unique wisdom to share when it comes to taking care of their own mental health and advocating for mental wellness in their communities; and

**WHEREAS**, Cook County and Cook County Health is leading by example in behavioral health care with the establishment of the 211 Metro Chicago behavioral health helpline and the Stronger Together: Building a More Equitable Behavioral Health System in Cook County Initiative among other programming throughout the county; and

**WHEREAS**, this Honorable Body wishes to raise awareness to the issues presented herein by promoting National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month in Cook County;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the President and the Cook County Board of Commissioners, on behalf of the more than 5.2 million residents of Cook County, do hereby take this opportunity to acknowledge National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, in conjunction with National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month that the month of July 2025 be hereby declared as National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month in the County of Cook; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this text be spread upon the official proceedings of this Honorable Body in recognition of National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month.

[25-3416](#)

**Sponsored by:** DONNA MILLER, Cook County Board of Commissioners

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**HONORING EDDIE KING JR. ON BEING DRAFTED BY THE PITTSBURGH PIRATES MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL TEAM**

**WHEREAS**, Eddie King Jr. from Lynwood, Illinois was selected by the Pittsburgh Pirates in the recent Major League Baseball draft as pick 473 overall; and

**WHEREAS**, Eddie started playing baseball in the Lynwood Little League at the age of 6 and his talent was quickly evident; and

**WHEREAS**, Eddie was the youngest player at age 11 on the 2014 Jackie Robinson West Little League Championship team in the Little League World Series, and would meet President Barrack Obama and Michelle Obama as a result of the team's great success; and

**WHEREAS**, Eddie played on the White Sox Amateur City Elite Team for 12-17-year-olds, playing in the Willie Mays and Roberto Clemente Tournaments where he was named MVP for both events; and

**WHEREAS**, Eddie attended Marion Catholic High School, where he played all four years on the Varsity Baseball team and was named Captain during the 2020-2021 season and made the Illinois All State Team; and

**WHEREAS**, after graduating High School with a 3.7 GPA, Eddie attended the University of Louisville, where he starred in the outfield and last year was one of college baseball's top power and clutch hitters, making 55 appearances and 50 starts tallying 17 home runs, 19 doubles, a triple, 21 walks and 63 RBI with an OPS of 1.185, which was 3rd in the ACC and 16th in slugging percentage in all of Division 1 Baseball; and

**WHEREAS**, Eddie's outstanding year garnered him Second-Team All-ACC honors and he was named MVP of the Nashville Regional tournament and made the College World Series All-Tournament team; and

**WHEREAS**, Eddie finished his career at the University of Louisville with 154 games played, a career .323 batting average, 36 home runs, 37 doubles, 3 triples, 45 walks, 23 stolen bases and 148 RBI; and

**WHEREAS**, Eddie received several accolades while attending the University of Louisville including the University of Louisville Fan Favorite, and Male Adidas High Performance Award to name a few; and

**WHEREAS**, just as he was at Marion Catholic High School, Eddie was a true scholar athlete, graduating

from the University of Louisville with a degree in Sports Administration and earning a 3.65 GPA;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Members of the Cook County Board of Commissioners does hereby extend our deepest congratulations to Eddie King Jr. on being selected by the Pittsburgh Pirates in the Major League Baseball draft and on his successful academic career and wish him the best of luck as he pursues his baseball career; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to Eddie King Jr., as a token of our esteem and recognition of his outstanding achievements.

[25-3255](#)

**Sponsored by:** DONNA MILLER, FRANK J. AGUILAR, SCOTT R. BRITTON, JOHN P. DALEY, BRIDGET DEGNEN, STANLEY MOORE, KEVIN B. MORRISON, MICHAEL SCOTT JR., MAGGIE TREVOR and JESSICA VÁSQUEZ, Cook County Board of Commissioners

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**RECOGNIZING AUGUST AS NATIONAL IMMUNIZATION AWARENESS MONTH IN COOK COUNTY**

**WHEREAS**, National Immunization Awareness Month (NIAM) is an annual observance held in August to highlight the importance of vaccination for people of all ages; and

**WHEREAS**, communities across the country use the month each year to raise awareness about the important role vaccines play in preventing serious, sometimes deadly, diseases across a lifespan, and NIAM is now more important than ever with the emergence of diseases such as COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, immunization isn't just for kids; to stay protected against serious illnesses like the flu, measles, and pneumonia, adults also need to get vaccinated; and

**WHEREAS**, National Immunization Awareness Month is a great time to promote vaccines and remind family, friends, and coworkers to stay up to date on their shots; and

**WHEREAS**, measles and whooping cough are just several vaccine-preventable diseases that threaten Americans, outbreaks continue to occur, and many vaccine-preventable diseases remain common; and

**WHEREAS**, in addition to saving lives, vaccines provide major cost savings by preventing serious infectious diseases, and prevent us from spending large amounts of money on treating them; and

**WHEREAS**, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), for every \$1 spent on childhood vaccinations, our country saves \$10.90, and routine childhood vaccines given to children born between 1994-2023 will have prevented approximately 508 million cases of illness, 32 million hospitalizations, and 1,129,000 deaths, resulting in direct savings of \$540 billion and societal savings of \$2.7

trillion; and

**WHEREAS**, as the operator of one of the largest Public Health Systems in the country, Cook County Government and our health system share a large portion of the economic burden of treating preventable diseases, and vaccines are among the most successful and cost-effective public health tools available for preventing disease and death; and

**WHEREAS**, in the United States, vaccines have greatly reduced infectious diseases that once routinely caused severe illness and death. According to the CDC, prior to the COVID-19 pandemic approximately 50,000 adults died every year from vaccine-preventable illnesses; and

**WHEREAS**, vaccines are safe, effective and the best protection against these diseases, from infancy to early adulthood and into old age, and by getting vaccinated, we not only protect ourselves, we help stop the spread of disease to our children, families and communities; however, for vaccines to be most effective, vaccination rates must remain high; and

**WHEREAS**, unfortunately, continuing disease outbreaks across the U.S. remain a public health concern, and lack of access to vaccines, combined with people who are not taking full advantage of opportunities to protect themselves, their families, and their communities, leaves people susceptible to preventable diseases; and

**WHEREAS**, two decades ago, measles was declared eliminated in the U.S., yet we have seen more and more cases of measles outbreaks throughout the county including in Chicago and Cook County; and

**WHEREAS**, the explanation for measles' return is simply that fewer Americans are receiving vaccines; Since the turn of the century, the share of American children under the age of 2 who go unvaccinated has quadrupled, and a growing number of American parents are refusing vaccines and as a result we are welcoming back a disease that decades ago killed hundreds of people a year and hospitalized close to 50,000; and

**WHEREAS**, part of the problem is a collective forgetting of the devastation caused by diseases such as smallpox and polio that extinguished many lives and disfigured bodies and so we must remain vigilant and continue to educate our residents on the importance of vaccination; and

**WHEREAS**, this Honorable Body wishes to promote and raise awareness of National Immunization Awareness Month in Cook County;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the President and the Cook County Board of Commissioners, on behalf of the more than 5.2 million residents of Cook County, do hereby take this opportunity to acknowledge National Immunization Awareness Month; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that in conjunction with National Immunization Awareness Month,



that the month of August 2025 be hereby declared Immunization Awareness Month in the County of Cook, and encourages everyone to remind their family, friends, and coworkers to stay up to date on their shots; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a suitable copy of this Resolution be spread upon the official proceeding of this Honorable Body in recognition of National Immunization Awareness Month.

[25-3253](#)

**Sponsored by:** DONNA MILLER, ALMA E. ANAYA, BRIDGET DEGNEN, BRIDGET GAINER, FRANK J. AGUILAR, SCOTT R. BRITTON, JOHN P. DALEY, KEVIN B. MORRISON, STANLEY MOORE, MICHAEL SCOTT JR., MAGGIE TREVOR and JESSICA VÁSQUEZ, Cook County Board of Commissioners

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**RECOGNIZING NATIONAL UTERINE FIBROID AWARENESS MONTH IN COOK COUNTY**

**WHEREAS**, the month of July is recognized as Uterine Fibroid Awareness Month, a crucial time to shed light on a health condition that affects millions of women across the country; and

**WHEREAS**, according to the National Institute for Health Care Management (NIHCM) Foundation, more than 70% of US women will experience uterine fibroids, also called leiomyomas or myomas, by 50 years of age and they are the most common reason, aside from cancer, that women have their uterus removed through hysterectomy, but for Black women that rate is over 80%. Overall, uterine fibroids become more common, from age 30 to menopause, but Black women develop fibroids at a younger age, have more severe symptoms and develop higher rates of complications; and

**WHEREAS**, it is estimated that 26,000,000 women between the ages of 15 and 50 have uterine fibroids, and 25-50% of women with uterine fibroids are symptomatic and more likely to experience heavy and prolonged bleeding, bleeding between menstrual cycles, chronic pelvic pain among other symptoms; and

**WHEREAS**, Black women deserve access to high-quality and equitable health care for all maternal health needs, including the treatment of uterine fibroids, and an increased focus on education and advocacy on fibroids prevention, symptoms, treatment, and care as well as adequate insurance coverage are necessary to improve this aspect of Black women's maternal health and fertility; and

**WHEREAS**, although fibroids are benign tumors, negative maternal health outcomes for Black women who experience them, including late detections of diagnoses, increased rates of surgery-related mortality, and increased rates of hysterectomies have persisted, in fact across the U.S., women of African ancestry are more likely to be offered hysterectomy as the only treatment; and

**WHEREAS**, Black women with fibroids of all socioeconomic statuses and education levels suffer from a

lack of fibroids relief because of non-comprehensive and costly treatment plans, minimal insurance coverage for scans, and harmful, invasive removals; and

**WHEREAS**, Black women are diagnosed 3 times more than white women and at a younger age resulting in negative maternal health outcomes for Black women who experience them, including late detections of diagnoses, increased rates of surgery-related mortality, and increased rates of hysterectomies; and

**WHEREAS**, symptomatic uterine fibroids can cause reproductive problems, including infertility and women with uterine fibroids are much more likely to miscarry during early pregnancy than women without them, 61% of women are unaware of treatment options for fibroids; and

**WHEREAS**, this Honorable Body wishes to raise awareness, education, and support, to empower individuals to seek timely medical advice and improve health outcomes related to uterine fibroids by promoting National Uterine Fibroid Awareness Month in Cook County;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the President and the Cook County Board of Commissioners, on behalf of the more than 5.2 million residents of Cook County, do hereby take this opportunity to acknowledge National Uterine Fibroid Awareness Month; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, in conjunction with National Uterine Fibroid Awareness Month that the month of July 2025 be hereby declared as National Uterine Fibroid Awareness Month in the County of Cook; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this text be spread upon the official proceedings of this Honorable Body in recognition of National Uterine Fibroid Awareness Month.

[25-3377](#)

**Sponsored by:** STANLEY MOORE, Cook County Board of Commissioners

#### **PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

#### **HONORING CHRISTIAN BEDGOOD**

**WHEREAS**, Christian Bedgood, a proud native of Chicago, Illinois, has excelled as a student-athlete at Marist High School, earning recognition as a four-year varsity soccer starter, team captain, and one of the top goal scorers in the East Suburban Catholic Conference; and

**WHEREAS**, Christian Bedgood has exemplified the values of service, integrity, and leadership as a proud son of U.S. Army veteran Deondre Bedgood and Tahira Bedgood, and a dedicated community volunteer in housing reconstruction, youth mentorship, and outreach efforts; and

**WHEREAS**, Christian Bedgood has demonstrated skill, leadership, and sportsmanship as a midfielder and forward, contributing 10 goals, 7 assists, and 75 game appearances over his high school career, while

playing club soccer with Inter FC and competing in regional and international tournaments; and

**WHEREAS**, Christian Bedgood has been recognized by WGN-TV, ABC7 Chicago, the Chicago Tribune, South Town, Beverly Review, and BodyArmor Sports for his excellence in athletics, academics, and community service; and

**WHEREAS**, Christian Bedgood has committed to the Rome City Institute in Rome, Italy, for the 2025-2026 gap year program, a prestigious opportunity that combines academic advancement with professional soccer development; and

**WHEREAS**, Christian Bedgood will be supported abroad by his older brother and personal trainer/manager, Langston Bedgood, who will reside in Italy to guide Christian's transition and athletic journey; and

**WHEREAS**, Christian Bedgood represents the very best of Chicago's youth-with grit, humility, and a global vision grounded in purpose and community impact.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that we, the Cook County Board of Commissioners do hereby congratulate Christian Bedgood for his outstanding accomplishments, exemplary character, and inspiring commitment to both personal excellence and public service. Let this resolution serve as an enduring testament to his remarkable achievements and bright future; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a suitable copy of this resolution be tendered to Christian Bedgood.

[25-3429](#)

**Sponsored by:** JESSICA VÁSQUEZ, Cook County Board of Commissioners

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**RECOGNIZING THE CULTURAL AND HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF THE COLOMBIAN COMMUNITY IN COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

**WHEREAS**, July 20 is recognized as Colombia's Independence Day, a celebratory day for Colombians and Colombian-Americans in the diaspora; and

**WHEREAS**, Cook County is home to many in the Colombian diaspora, with some of the first Colombian residents arriving in Cook County in the 1950s; and

**WHEREAS**, since the 1950s, the Colombian population in Illinois has grown from 3,500 in 1970 to over 100,000 Colombians representing regions across Colombia and spanning various neighborhoods in the state of Illinois; and

**WHEREAS**, on February 28, 2009, the city of Chicago, a Cook County municipality, signed a sister city agreement with Bogotá, Colombia, to promote peace through mutual respect, understanding, and cooperation through citizen diplomacy; and

**WHEREAS**, Colombian culture and influence can be seen and heard throughout Cook County through its many small businesses, artists, and cultural organizations; and

**WHEREAS**, longstanding notable local Colombians and Colombian institutions in Cook County include Guilibaldo Criollo, founder of Tierra Colombiana Dance, Colombianos Unidos Para Una Labor Activa, Orietta Montropez, founder of Colectivo Folclórico Y Cultural: Raíces de mi Tierra, and the Ortega Brothers, organizers of the annual Gran Festival Colombiano; and

**WHEREAS**, emerging Colombian entrepreneurs continue to share the richness of Colombian culture with a twist throughout Cook County, such as Cynthia Orobio, co-owner of Polombia, Juan and Nathalie Betancourt, co-owners of ArePA George, and the Acebedo family's independently owned Magnífico Coffee Roasters & Coffee Shop; and

**WHEREAS**, a new generation of Colombian creatives across Cook County are building community through the arts, such Pablo Alejandro, artist and designer for Palpable and owner of PSA Chicago, a community center for creatives, and the Más +57 Collective, which includes Samir J. Ghazaleh, creator of Estilombia, DJ and cultural curator Lilia "Escobae" Escobar, visual artist and MC IIIMPULSIVEEE, and Elsa Mejia, Evita Ortega and Zofia Ortega, founders of The Medium Productions; and

**WHEREAS**, many Colombian Americans work for and contribute to Cook County's municipalities and our neighborhoods every day, enhancing our social and cultural fabric; and

**WHEREAS**, the Cook County Board recognizes the cultural importance and history surrounding the observance of Colombia's Independence and joins the Colombian community across Illinois in celebrating Colombia's 215th Independence Day; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners of Cook County, on behalf of the 5.2 million residents of Cook County, expresses its appreciation for the vibrancy, tenacity, and contributions of the Colombian community and wishes all who observe this holiday a happy and safe celebration; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a suitable copy of this Resolution be spread upon the official proceedings of this Honorable Body and that an official copy of the same be tendered to the Colombian Consulate in Chicago and Gustavo Petro, President of the Republic of Colombia.