



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

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

**Third Consent Agenda**

**Thursday, October 24, 2024, 10:00 AM**

**Issued on: 10/24/2024**

[24-5980](#)

**Sponsored by:** ALMA E. ANAYA, Cook County Board of Commissioners

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**CELEBRATING THE GREATER SOUTHWEST DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (GSDC)  
ON ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY**

**WHEREAS**, the Greater Southwest Development Corporation (GSDC) was formed in 1974 as a result of organizing efforts to hold banks accountable for the growing disinvestment in the Chicago Lawn neighborhood; and

**WHEREAS**, James F. Capraro was the founder of GSDC and as a result of his leadership, GSDC implemented over half a billion in neighborhood development projects; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1979, GSDC sponsored the 63rd Holiday Parade, which promoted the local business district along 63rd Street, the purpose was to draw attention to the West Lawn retail shops as well as shops within Chicago Lawn; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1983, the 63rd Street Growth Commission was born, bringing businesses together to enhance attractiveness and strengthen the small and moderate-size business districts in the area; and

**WHEREAS**, GSDC works to prevent disinvestment and reverse decline by positioning neighborhoods to compete for investment and maintain a mixed-income economy; and

**WHEREAS**, GSDC's programs and services are designed to support a healthy community; providing a wide variety of residential, commercial, and industrial assistance; and

**WHEREAS**, in response to Chicago Lawn's demand for senior housing, GSDC was able to assemble vacant and blighted lots to develop housing for low-income seniors; and

**WHEREAS**, the buildings bring 170 units of independent senior housing, and 86 senior supportive living units and are anchors in the community; and

**WHEREAS**, over 30 million dollars has been invested into Chicago Lawn as a result of those buildings, representing a healthy solution to revitalize 63rd Street by eliminating the blighted buildings where now seniors can live; and

**WHEREAS**, since 1992, GSDC has acquired entire blocks in Chicago Lawn and through Senior Low Income Housing Tax Credits, Chicago Revenue Bonds, Federal Home Loan Bank's Affordable Housing Program, and financing partners like Cinnaire Financing Group and Marquette Bank, GSDC has built \$33M worth of subsidized senior housing, totaling 248 units; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2001, GSDC earned the Community Development Corporation of the Year award from Chicago's Local Initiative Support Corporation; and

**WHEREAS**, the Metropolitan Family Services (MFS) Community Partner Award was presented to Jim Capraro and GSDC staff in December 2004 for their collaborative work in creating Metropolitan Family Services' (MFS) new Childcare Center located at GSDC's Lawn Terrace Apartments and commercial strip at 3215W. 63rd St. in Chicago; and

**WHEREAS**, in the spring of 2003, GSDC was selected as one of fourteen organizations by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation to lead a comprehensive community planning and implementation process; and

**WHEREAS**, annually, GSDC assists more than 2,000 businesses in accessing financing, technological solutions, marketing, and government aid and services; and

**WHEREAS**, GSDC is a HUD-Certified Housing Counseling Organization that provides free comprehensive housing counseling, education Pre-Purchase education, and counseling for first-time home buyers; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2012, GSDC engaged with Chicago's Department of Health and Human Services, Metropolitan Family Services, and WINGS Domestic Violence Corp to acquire and rehab a City of Chicago-owned building and vacant property to build a \$8M, 40-bed women's shelter; and

**WHEREAS**, today, the Chicago Lawn neighborhood reflects a diverse community, and GSDC's work over the years has contributed to the area's continued level of economic investment.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the Cook County Board President and the Cook County Board of Commissioners do hereby congratulate the Greater Southwest Development Corporation (GSDC) on its 50th Anniversary; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT**, this text be spread upon the proceedings of this Honorable Body and that a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to Greater Southwest Development Corporation (GSDC) in honor of its outstanding community work and may continue servicing the community.

[24-5981](#)

**Sponsored by:** ALMA E. ANAYA, Cook County Board of Commissioners

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**RECOGNIZING OCTOBER 3, 2024, AS LATINA EQUAL PAY DAY**

**WHEREAS**, Latina Equal Pay Day is the approximate day Latinas must work into the new year to make what White non-Hispanic men made at the end of the previous year; and

**WHEREAS**, Latinas continued to face the pay gap that is, on average, 51 cents to every dollar paid to white, non-Hispanic men. This number includes all Latinas with reported earnings, like part-time, seasonal, and migrant workers; and

**WHEREAS**, for full-time, year-round workers, the wage gap is 58 cents for every dollar paid to white, non-Hispanic men counterparts. This means, on average, that Latina workers stand to lose more than \$1.2 million throughout a 40-year career due to the wage gap; and

**WHEREAS**, looking back over the past 30 years, Latinas have earned less than 60 cents for every dollar earned by non-Hispanic white men and today's gap is five cents smaller than it was in 1990; and

**WHEREAS**, the low-wage work and the persistent gender wage gap also hurt not only Latinas but their families, as well, which makes them vulnerable to experiencing poverty, especially those who are single heads of households; and

**WHEREAS**, many jobs are considered essential but are severely underpaid such as caregivers and domestic workers compared to comparably skilled jobs in other industries that are male-dominated; and

**WHEREAS**, Latinas are overly represented in industries often characterized by low wages and a lack of basic workplace protections, including farm work, childcare, and domestic roles; and

**WHEREAS**, even though Latinas work in the healthcare field and other service jobs, they are still being paid way less than white men in these jobs; and

**WHEREAS**, the pandemic took a disproportionate toll on industries where the majority of workers are women of color, and even so women are more likely to lose their jobs compared to men; and

**WHEREAS**, Latina even with a bachelor's degree face a worse pay gap compared to a white man who also has college degrees; and

**WHEREAS**, even though women ask for raises or promotions at the same rates as men, only 71 Latinas are promoted to manager for every 100 men who receive a promotion; and

**WHEREAS**, women of color pay a high penalty for motherhood, often pushed out of their jobs and into lower-paying ones for taking time off to give birth which creates a ripple effect for years to come and backtracks them in the working field.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Cook County Board of Commissioners recognizes Thursday, October 3, 2024, as Latina Equal Pay Day and applauds the work of Latina women all over.

[24-5982](#)

**Sponsored by:** ALMA E. ANAYA and BRIDGET GAINER, Cook County Board of Commissioners

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**CELEBRATING CENTRO ROMERO ON THEIR 40TH ANNIVERSARY**

**WHEREAS,** Centro Romero is a community-based, not-for-profit organization that serves the communities of Edgewater, Rogers Park, and Uptown on the northeast side of Chicago; and

**WHEREAS,** Centro Romero was founded in 1984 by Daysi J. Funes and Jose Manuel Ventura to meet the needs of the rapidly increasing Latino immigrant and refugee populations; and

**WHEREAS,** Centro Romero was named in honor of Archbishop Oscar Romero, a Salvadoran Roman Catholic cleric who was killed while celebrating Mass in San Salvador in 1980 for his outspoken defense of the human rights of his native Salvadorans during its long civil war; and

**WHEREAS,** the mission of Centro Romero is to empower those with the fewest options in the immigrant and refugee community by developing and strengthening the family unit, fostering community leadership, and providing quality social and adjustment services; and

**WHEREAS,** Centro Romero's Family Services Program is comprised of services that promote the development of healthy families; and

**WHEREAS,** Centro Romero's Youth Program allows children between the ages of 6 through 13 to attend an intensive age-specific after-school project that includes academic support, tutoring, recreational activities, and field trips to museums, and older youth attend the BRAVE program, a violence prevention initiative; and

**WHEREAS,** Centro Romero's Domestic Violence Project serves women with individual counseling and group support; and

**WHEREAS,** Centro Romero has been able to help more than 10,000 family members benefit from accessing public benefits programs; and

**WHEREAS,** Centro Romero's Legal Services Program served more than 10,000 clients with immigration and naturalization issues, helping them become Legal Permanent Residents, and citizens and processing renewal applications for the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA); and

**WHEREAS,** Centro Romero's work in the Adult Education Program helps adults with English as a Second Language (ESL), General Educational Development (GED), citizenship preparation classes, and

vocational training for healthcare careers, as well as one-to-one tutoring in a volunteer literacy program, and job-readiness training; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2023, Centro Romero's staff of 60, with the help of 241 volunteers provided 5,920 service hours and empowered 34,644 clients across three programs, including 24,041 persons educated in community education activities; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2024 alone, Centro Romero supported nearly 2,000 new arrivals, with a total of close to 6,700 newly arrived migrants assisted since buses began arriving in Chicago; and

**WHEREAS**, for 40 years, Centro Romero's mission has been to empower immigrants and refugees with the fewest options by supporting and enhancing family units, promoting community leadership, and offering social and adjustment services.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the Cook County Board President and the Cook County Board of Commissioners do hereby congratulate Centro Romero on its 40th Anniversary; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT**, this text be spread upon the proceedings of this Honorable Body and that a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to Centro Romero in honor of its outstanding community work and may continue servicing the community

[24-5983](#)

**Sponsored by:** ALMA E. ANAYA, Cook County Board of Commissioners

#### **PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

#### **CELEBRATING THE HIPPOCRATIC CANCER RESEARCH FOUNDATION ON ITS 10TH ANNIVERSARY**

**WHEREAS**, the Hippocratic Cancer Research Foundation (HCRF) is recognized as one of the most effective organizations at the Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center of Northwestern University; and

**WHEREAS**, the inception of the HCRF began in 2014 by four compassionate individuals who wanted to make a difference for humanity and those impacted by hearing the word "cancer". It was embraced by many, becoming a reality in 2015; and

**WHEREAS**, Eleni Bousis, with support from Jimmy Bousis, founded and serves as chair of the HCRF where the foundation has raised millions of dollars to support vital cancer research; and

**WHEREAS**, HCRF's diverse network of donors will provide the philanthropic support to fund interdisciplinary research teams at the Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center of Northwestern

University, empowering their world-class investigators to join forces and address the most urgent questions in the fields of cancer biology and oncology in daring and innovative ways; and

**WHEREAS**, HCRF offers their supporters an unparalleled opportunity to be directly involved in a health initiative that promises not only to advance cancer research but also to eradicate it and provide direct access to world-renowned medical experts like Dr. Leonidas Plataniias, the Director of the Lurie Cancer Center and their team; and

**WHEREAS**, throughout the years, HCRF has been able to accomplish multiple achievements that have impacted the lives of many; and

**WHEREAS**, HCRF has helped develop new treatments for hematological malignancies and pancreatic cancer; and

**WHEREAS**, HCRF has identified potential targets for COVID antiviral therapy and cellular pathways that affect all cancers; and

**WHEREAS**, HCRF has launched innovative clinical trials for all types of cancer; and

**WHEREAS**, HCRF supports researchers through the Hippocratic Scholar Awards, which are given annually to researchers who have designed highly innovative, cutting-edge basic science; and

**WHEREAS**, HCRF's mission is to fuel innovative research to offer new hope to those battling cancer. The HCRF is inspired by Hippocrates' approach to scientific discovery empathetic care; and

**WHEREAS**, HCRF's goal is ambitious: to raise millions, as they have successfully done, to ensure that the excellence of Northwestern's Robert H. Lurie Cancer Center is accessible to all, and to accelerate efforts to eradicate cancer as a disease.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, The Cook County Board President and the Cook County Board of Commissioners do hereby congratulate the Hippocratic Cancer Research Foundation (HCRF) on their 10th Anniversary; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT**, this text be spread upon the proceedings of this Honorable Body and that a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to the Hippocratic Cancer Research Foundation (HCRF) in honor of its outstanding work and research and may continue servicing the community.