

RESOLUTION NO. _____-2022

RECOGNIZING and expressing the appreciation of the Mayor and the Council of the City of Cincinnati to Kevin Corey as a 2022 City of Cincinnati Black History Month honoree for his continuous servant leadership at Wesley Chapel Mission, located in the Over-the-Rhine neighborhood of Cincinnati, Ohio, and his ongoing efforts to make Cincinnati the best place for every child, without regard to age, race, or economic status.

WHEREAS, Wesley Chapel Mission (“WCMC”) is a faith-based organization that ministers to the children and families in the Over-the-Rhine neighborhood through education programs, guided social and moral development, and collaboration with the community, serving approximately 400 students in PreK through 12th grades whose family incomes average \$13,488; and

WHEREAS, in 2021 WCMC reported that 100% of its high school seniors graduated; twelve high school youth were employed in its Summer Job Readiness Program; it created an organizational policy and procedure manual; experienced an 165% increase in volunteers; and it served 12,306 children through its programming; and

WHEREAS, last year WCMC also introduced new technology to educate youth about coding, robotics, drones, and 3D printing, and partnered with the Cincinnati Police Department to deter crime and lead awareness of the effects of violence in Over-the-Rhine; and

WHEREAS, Kevin Corey grew up in Fort Wayne, Indiana, and retired from the Fort Wayne Police Department in 2012 after 21 years in command and leadership roles, including service as the first statewide president of the Indiana School Resource Officers Association; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Corey moved to Ohio in 2012 to join the Lincoln Heights, Ohio Police Department, and also became a member of the Hamilton County Police Association, the State of Ohio Police Association, the International Association of Chiefs of Police, the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives, and the FBI National Academy Associates, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, after leaving the Lincoln Heights Police Department in 2013, Mr. Corey taught business and criminal justice courses at Brown Mackie College and the University of Cincinnati, subsequently joining Talbert House as its Associate Director; and

WHEREAS, in November 2020, Mr. Corey became the Executive Director of WCMC; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Corey’s childhood experiences inspired his passion to serve, help, and lead others; and

WHEREAS, during lengthy school bus rides as a youth, Mr. Corey and his siblings noticed the disparities between different neighborhoods, leading his mother to counsel the family about the effects of racism, and encouraging them to maintain faith in God and pursue education as the path to a better life; and

WHEREAS, as he grew up Mr. Corey greatly benefitted from the local neighborhood community centers, housing authority complex centers, Sunday schools, and church choirs available to him and his family; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Corey remains committed to improving other people's lives, and has worked tirelessly to improve the Over-the-Rhine neighborhood for children; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Cincinnati, State of Ohio:

Section 1. That the Mayor and this Council hereby recognize Kevin Corey as a 2022 City of Cincinnati Black History Month honoree for his continuous servant leadership at Wesley Chapel Mission, located in the Over-the-Rhine neighborhood, and his ongoing efforts to make Cincinnati the best place for every child, without regard to age, race, or economic status.

Section 2. That this resolution be spread upon the minutes of Council.

Passed: _____, 2022

Aftab Pureval, Mayor

Attest: _____
Clerk

Submitted by Councilmember Liz Keating