

RESOLUTION NO. _____ - 2021

RECOGNIZING and honoring Hope Dudley for her leadership and advocacy for families who have been impacted by violent crimes, as part of the City of Cincinnati's recognition of Women's History Month 2021 during which the City celebrates women who are making history today while bringing national attention to Cincinnati and serving our community.

WHEREAS, March is Women's History Month and includes International Women's Day, celebrating the achievements of women who have improved our communities, our city, our nation, and our world; and

WHEREAS, Hope Dudley has dedicated her life to supporting those who have lost loved ones to violence following the murder of her son, Daniel "Chaz" Dudley in 2007; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Dudley's dissemination of bookmarks and other literature regarding unsolved homicide cases at community spaces such as libraries and churches became a model for a statewide pilot program in 2008; and

WHEREAS, in 2009, Ms. Dudley established the non-profit UCanSpeakForMe, which is a platform for peer-to-peer assistance for those who have lost someone to violence and who seek justice for their loved one; and

WHEREAS, under Ms. Dudley's leadership as Chief Executive Officer, the organization provides education for the general public about law enforcement and judicial proceedings pertaining to violent crimes; and

WHEREAS, UCanSpeakForMe creates a safe space for victims and their families to grieve through confidential support meetings and engages the community and local media to gather information that can be utilized by investigators via designing bookmarks, posters, and playing cards; and

WHEREAS, as a service partner of the Ohio Attorney General's Crime Victim Section, Ms. Dudley and her organization connect families with resources to help them cope and overcome challenges related to the loss of a loved one; now, therefore,

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

Section 1. That the Mayor and this Council recognize Hope Dudley as a 2021 City of Cincinnati Women's History Month honoree for her tireless advocacy and support for victims of violent crime and their families throughout the City of Cincinnati.

Section 2. That a copy of this resolution be spread upon the minutes of Council and that a copy be provided to Ms. Dudley through the office of Councilmember Kearney.

Passed: _____, 2021

John Cranley, Mayor

Attest: _____
Clerk

Submitted by Councilmembers Jan-Michele Lemon Kearney, Betsy Sundermann, and Liz Keating.