

# RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

No. 59

Approved February 14, 2025

WHEREAS, January has brought below-freezing temperatures, classified as a polar vortex, placing unhoused residents at extreme risk; and

WHEREAS, Despite the three "Code Blue" warming shelters remaining open 24/7, these spaces were insufficient to meet the overwhelming demand; and

WHEREAS, Recognizing the urgent need for additional shelter, the DaVinci Center, under the leadership of Norma Gonzalez, selflessly opened its doors as an overnight emergency warming shelter; and

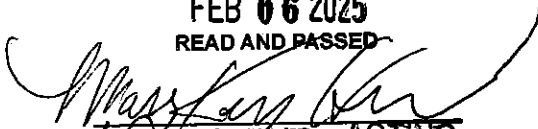
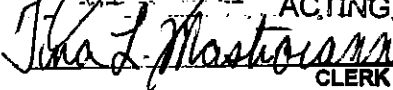
WHEREAS, In response, staff from Better Lives Rhode Island, under the leadership of Paula Hudson, stepped up with expertise to provide critical, specialized support to our unhoused residents for 12 hours each day the center has been open; and

WHEREAS, The leadership of the DaVinci Center and the dedicated efforts of Better Lives Rhode Island staff allowed the center to remain open for a critical period, giving warm shelter to as many as 50 people in a singular night and saving lives; and

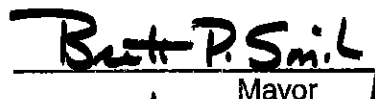
WHEREAS, Without the compassionate, lifesaving work of the organizers at the DaVinci Center, the staff from Better Lives Rhode Island, and dozens of community volunteers, the emergency warming shelter would not have been possible.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Providence City Council expresses its deep gratitude to the staff of both the DaVinci Center and Better Lives Rhode Island for their heroic contributions, which ensured the safety of Providence residents.

IN CITY COUNCIL  
FEB 06 2025  
READ AND PASSED

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
ACTING  
MAYOR  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
CLERK

I HEREBY APPROVE.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Beth P. Smiley  
Mayor  
Date: 2/14/25  
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