



RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

No. 55

EFFECTIVE February 11, 2024

WHEREAS, Youth Pride Inc. is the sole nonprofit organization in Rhode Island that caters to the diverse and specific needs of LGBTQIA+ youth and young adults aged 25 and under, by providing them with direct service, support, advocacy, and education; and

WHEREAS, Youth Pride Inc. is dedicated to empowering the leaders of today and tomorrow, by ensuring that youth voices drive their process, and by developing the leadership skills of their members both within and outside the organization; and

WHEREAS, Youth Pride Inc. values building strong and meaningful connections as a key factor for youth success and empowerment, and strives to create a caring, respectful, and inclusive community of young people and adults; and

WHEREAS, Youth Pride Inc. offers a range of youth support services, such as mental health counseling, housing assistance, GED preparation, toiletries and school supplies, food and clothing donations, and more; and

WHEREAS, Youth Pride Inc. is a leading advocate for the policy needs of LGBTQ+ youth and a champion of their self-advocacy, through various actions such as testifying at the statehouse, attending rallies, chairing the statewide LGBTQ+ Youth Task Force, and participating in various panels and commissions that influence decision-making processes; and

WHEREAS, Youth Pride Inc.'s center and service team staff have filed a petition to join 1199 SEIU, the largest and fastest-growing healthcare union in the nation, because they believe unionizing is a vital step in creating a sustainable and supportive work environment that enables them to effectively serve the youth they care for; and

WHEREAS, The City of Providence recognizes and appreciates the essential role of unions in advancing the economic and social well-being of workers and their families, as well as the democratic participation and civic engagement of working people in the community; and

WHEREAS, Union jobs are crucial to reducing the income inequality and the gender and racial pay gaps that plague our society; and

WHEREAS, We believe that the widening income disparity between the wealthiest Americans and the middle class is harmful to labor, business, a dynamic economy, and a stable democracy.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the City Council of Providence hereby expresses its full and unequivocal support for the right of Youth Pride Inc. to unionize and bargain collectively for fair and dignified working conditions; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City Council of Providence commends Youth Pride Inc. for their invaluable service to the LGBTQ+ youth and young adults of Rhode Island and for their courageous stand for workers' rights and social justice; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That upon passage a copy of this resolution be sent to the office of Mayor Brett Smiley and the Youth Pride Inc.

IN CITY COUNCIL

FEB 01 2024
READ AND PASSED


RACHEL M. MILLER, PRESIDENT

CLERK

Effective without the
Mayor's Signature


Tina L. Mastroianni
City Clerk