

# RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

*No. 247*

*Approved May 29, 2009*

WHEREAS, The current employees of the Providence & Blackstone Valley Head Start Program have together given nearly two thousand years of service to our city's young children, ensuring they enter our schools ready to learn and providing their families with the supports they need to help them succeed; and

WHEREAS, These nearly 200 employees have the experience, knowledge, and educational qualifications that make them eminently prepared to continue serving this program into the future; and

WHEREAS, Many of these employees are former Head Start parents whose lives were touched by the program, and who in turn have chosen to serve the next generation of families; and

WHEREAS, Many of these employees are Providence city residents who work hard, pay their taxes, support their own families, and contribute to the economic life of our city and its neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, A new organization, Children's Friend & Service, has been awarded the federal grant to manage the Head Start Program serving Providence & Blackstone Valley as of June 15, 2009 and serve the same numbers of children and families; and

WHEREAS, Children's Friend & Service has to date refused to offer continued employment to the current program's employees or to meet with them and their chosen representatives, District 1199 SEIU; and

WHEREAS, Deeply concerned about any further job losses at a time when our state and city are experiencing record unemployment levels.

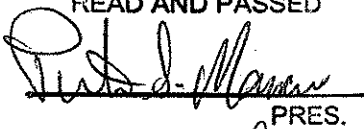
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the City Council of Providence thanks the dedicated employees of the Head Start program for their continued service to the children and families of our city, and recognizes the value of their work and experience; and

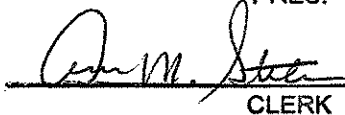
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City Council of Providence calls upon Page 2

Children's Friend & Service to make offers of employment to all current Head Start employees; and

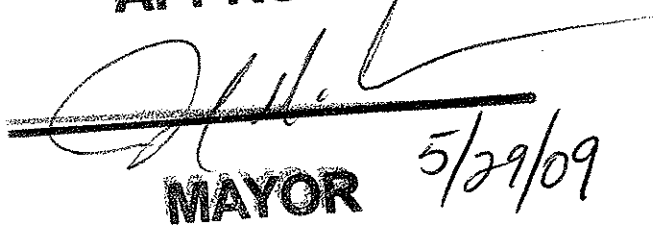
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City Council of Providence calls upon Children's Friend & Service to meet forthwith with the employees and their chosen representative.

IN CITY COUNCIL  
MAY 21 2009  
READ AND PASSED

  
PRES.

  
CLERK

**APPROVED**

  
**MAYOR** 5/29/09