

# MIAMI BEACH

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

**No. 238-2016**

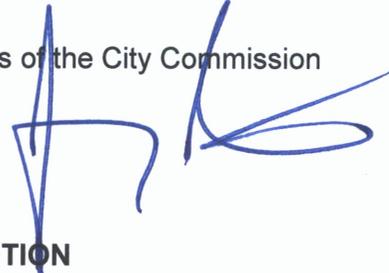
LETTER TO COMMISSION

TO: Mayor Philip Levine and Members of the City Commission

FROM: Jimmy L. Morales, City Manager

DATE: June 1, 2016

SUBJECT: **CITY OF WEST MIAMI RESOLUTION**



Attached for your information is Resolution No. 2016-23, adopted by the Mayor and Commission of the City of West Miami on May 18, 2016.

Resolution Of The Mayor And City Commission Of The City Of West Miami Declaring Principles Of Inclusion For Individuals With Autism And Other Special Needs, And Urging National, State And Local Businesses And Residential Communities Consistent With These Principles; Providing For Effective Date.

The City of West Miami has requested that a copy of this resolution be provided to the Miami Beach Mayor and Commissioners.

If you have any questions, please contact the Office of the City Clerk at 305.673.7411.

JLM/REG 

Attachment



## RESOLUTION # 2016-23

**RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF WEST MIAMI DECLARING PRINCIPLES OF INCLUSION FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH AUTISM AND OTHER SPECIAL NEEDS, AND URGING NATIONAL, STATE AND LOCAL BUSINESSES AND RESIDENTIAL COMMUNITIES CONSISTENT WITH THESE PRINCIPLES; PROVIDING FOR EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**WHEREAS**, Autism spectrum disorders are a highly individualized group of neurodevelopmental disabilities that present specific challenges to the development of language, social skills and learning; and

**WHEREAS**, The prevalence rate of Autism makes the disorder one of the most common developmental disabilities, yet most of the public, and professionals in the medical, educational and vocational fields are still unaware of how Autism affects people and how they can effectively work with individuals with the disability; and

**WHEREAS**, It is now estimated that Autism occurs in 1 out of every 91 births and research further indicates that Autism is 4 times more prevalent in boys than girls and knows no racial, ethnic or social boundaries; and

**WHEREAS**, It is the goal of the City Commission of the City of West Miami to inform the public about the exceptional and varied profiles of individuals with Autism, the contributions they make, and challenges the face in school, the community, and the workplace; and

**WHEREAS**, The United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities supports inclusion and accommodation of children and adults with special needs and disabilities; and

**WHEREAS**, The Convention has identified the following core principles of inclusion:

- a. Respect for inherent dignity, individual autonomy including the freedom to make one's own choices, and independence of persons;
- b. Non-Discrimination;
- c. Full and effective participation and inclusion in society;

- d. Respect for difference and acceptance of persons with disabilities as part of human diversity and humanity;
- e. Equality of opportunity
- f. Accessibility;
- g. Equality between men and women;
- h. Respect for the evolving capacities of children with disabilities and respect for the right of children with disabilities to preserve their identities; and

**WHEREAS**, Inclusion is an attitude, an approach and a mindset, which welcomes and facilitates participation by those with disabilities and special needs and encourages accommodations beyond those required by law.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF WEST MIAMI AS FOLLOWS:**

**SECTION 1.** The aforementioned statements are true and correct and adopted as is fully stated herein.

**SECTION 2.** The City of West Miami expresses its commitment to the principle of inclusion of children and adults with special needs and disabilities in all aspects of its governance and services, and seeks to welcome and facilitate such participation.

**SECTION 3.** The City urges businesses to express their commitment to the principle of inclusion in both employment and commerce.

**SECTION 4.** The City urges developers, homeowner associations, and condominium associations to adopt policies supporting the principle of inclusion in residential communities.

**SECTION 5.** The City urges national, state, and local governments to express their commitment to the principle of inclusion as well, and to continue expanding services to children and adults with special needs and disabilities.

**SECTION 6.** The City Clerk is directed to send a copy of this resolution to the National League of Cities, National Association of Counties, Florida League of Cities, Florida Association of Counties, Miami-Dade County League of Cities, Miami-Dade County, Miami-Dade County Public Schools, and municipalities in Miami-Dade County.

**SECTION 7.** This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon passage by the City Commission and signature of the Mayor.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 18<sup>th</sup> Day of May 2016.

APPROVED:



EDUARDO H. MUÑINA, MAYOR

ATTEST:



ANNERY GONZALEZ, CMC  
CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND SUFFICIENCY:



JOSE A. VILLALOBOS, CITY ATTORNEY

ROLL CALL:

MAYOR EDUARDO H. MUÑINA	<u>Y</u>
VICE -MAYOR JUAN M. BLANES	<u>Y</u>
COMMISSIONER CANDIDA BLANCA	<u>Y</u>
COMMISSIONER RHONDA A. RODRIGUEZ	<u>Y</u>
COMMISSIONER LUCIANO L. SUAREZ	<u>Y</u>