

City of Philadelphia



Council of the City of Philadelphia
Office of the Chief Clerk
Room 402, City Hall
Philadelphia

(Resolution No. 120626)

RESOLUTION

Honoring the outstanding efforts and achievements of the many founders and supporters of Youth Courts who have integrated restorative justice methods, taught civic responsibility, and promoted community involvement; all to promote the goal of reduced recidivism and delinquency; as well as inspire our youth towards achievement, empowerment, and self-realization.

WHEREAS, Dr. Edgar S. Cahn, president and founder of the Time Dollar USA, developed “Co-Production”, the founding principle of the Time Dollar Youth Court established in 1996. Located in Washington, DC, the Youth Court turns former respondents into co-producers of change by engaging youth in evolving the shape of juvenile justice. The program now enlists more than 400 youth each year, the majority of them former delinquents who now may actualize their leadership potential; and

WHEREAS, The Stoneleigh Foundation is committed to investing in individuals who promote the ideas of a just civic society while focusing on child welfare and juvenile justice issues and have invested in Gregg Volz who independently spearheaded a comprehensive Youth Courts initiative that has improved the lives of so many students ; and

WHEREAS, The Honorable Judge Marjorie Rendell, on behalf of the Pennsylvania Bar Association Youth Court Advisory Board, chaired a state-wide meeting to discuss the complex logistics of a public/private coordinated effort to increase the use of youth courts so that community leaders may serve as mentors of our young people; and

WHEREAS, Keith Bailey, Philadelphia Physicians for Social Responsibility, as well as the organization “Communities In Schools” have supported the original Philadelphia Youth Court initiative since 1998. These parties believe that students who commit minor offenses are best served by remaining in school and fostering engagement with their school community. They have been committed to creating a positive school culture that emphasizes responsibility for the past 14 years in Philadelphia; and

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WHEREAS, Through the leadership of David Trevaskis, Director of Pro-Bono initiatives for the Pennsylvania Bar Association, committed volunteers from our prestigious law schools, with the support of the US Attorney's office have promoted innovative solutions to the complex problems that plague our schools. By engaging young people in a participatory process that instills confidence, empathy, and personal knowledge of the justice system; Youth courts create positive teachable moments and promote restorative justice; now therefore,

RESOLVED, THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA, Hereby honors the outstanding efforts and achievements of the many founders and supporters of Youth Courts who have integrated restorative justice methods, taught civic responsibility, and promoted community involvement; all to promote the goal of reduced recidivism and delinquency; as well as inspire our youth towards achievement, empowerment, and self-realization.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Dr. Edgar S. Cahn, The Stoneleigh Foundation, The Honorable Judge Marjorie Rendell, Keith Bailey, "Communities In Schools" and David Trevaskis as evidence of the sincere sentiments and appreciation of this legislative body.

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CERTIFICATION: This is a true and correct copy of the original Resolution, Adopted by the Council of the City of Philadelphia on the twenty-first of June, 2012.

Darrell L. Clarke
PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL

Michael A. Decker
CHIEF CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Introduced by: Councilmember Jones

Sponsored by: Councilmembers Jones and Johnson