

City of Philadelphia



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

(Resolution No. 250616)

RESOLUTION

Honoring and congratulating Chris Bartlett on the occasion of his retirement from the William Way LGBT Community Center after fifteen years of dedicated service on June 30, 2025.

WHEREAS, Chris Bartlett has fought for LGBTQ+ rights for more than 30 years. He began his work during the HIV/AIDS crisis of the 1980s as a member of ACT UP Philadelphia, becoming a leading advocate for research and education on the disease through the AIDS Library of Philadelphia and the SafeGuards Gay Men's Health Project; and

WHEREAS, Chris began his role as Executive Director at the William Way LGBT Community Center in 2010. He worked quickly to solidify and expand the organization's footprint as a leading LGBTQ+ home, advocacy organization, and space for the LGBTQ+ communities; and

WHEREAS, As Executive Director, Chris successfully expanded peer support groups, senior programming, and arts initiatives to appeal to a wide range of constituencies. He managed significant renovations and repairs to the center, increased support for BIPOC and transgender people, and developed closer relationships with national advocates to solidify his organization's voice in political processes from the local to the federal level; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his extraordinary leadership at William Way, Chris developed the nation's first LGBTQ+ jazz festival "Outbeat", the nation's first LGBTQ+ history exhibition at a national museum "Speaking OUT for Equality", and the City's first remembrance of its citizens lost to the AIDS epidemic "Remembrance", thus shining a light on the significant queer histories in the City of Philadelphia; and

WHEREAS, Chris Bartlett has left the center on a stronger footing than ever before, and few individuals have made such a lasting and holistic mark on the organizations they serve. Chris's tenure at William Way serves as proof that leadership through service can grow an organization's impact and network, and his profound influence has ensured William Way's ongoing prominence and permanence in the LGBTQ+ communities in the City of Philadelphia; now, therefore, be it

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RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA, Hereby honors and congratulates Chris Bartlett on the occasion of his retirement from the William Way LGBT Community Center after fifteen years of dedicated service on June 30, 2025.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That an Engrossed copy of this Resolution be presented to Chris Bartlett as evidence of the support and admiration of this legislative body.

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RESOLUTION NO. 250616 continued

CERTIFICATION: This is a true and correct copy of the original Resolution, Adopted by the Council of the City of Philadelphia on the fifth day of June, 2025.

Kenyatta Johnson
PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL

Elizabeth McCollum
CHIEF CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Introduced by: Councilmember Landau

Sponsored by: Councilmembers, Landau, Phillips, Gilmore Richardson,
Gauthier, Brooks, Harrity, Driscoll, Squilla and Ahmad