

City of Philadelphia



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

(Resolution No. 140181)

RESOLUTION

Honoring the rich life and loving memory of Jaci Adams: the longest serving member of the Philadelphia Police Liaison Committee; fierce, beloved, and award winning leader within the Philadelphia LGBTQ communities; and passionate advocate for transgender and HIV/AIDS health initiatives.

WHEREAS, Jaci Adams was the kind of person that best embodies the “American Dream”. Despite a past marred by childhood abuse and neglect, Jaci transformed her hardships into a vibrant and service-driven life characterized instead by an indomitable moral compass and infectious self-esteem; and

WHEREAS, Jaci Adams passed away from cancer on February 15, 2014. For many who were lucky enough to call her a friend, it was likely the first and only fight Jaci didn’t win. Those that knew Jaci as an activist for LGBTQ rights and advocate for HIV/AIDS health were always their strongest with Jaci among their ranks—although she often led the charge; and

WHEREAS, Jaci Adams’ passing was widely mourned throughout Philadelphia because for so many causes, individuals, and social justice campaigns, Jaci’s service and passion were the keystone; and

WHEREAS, Jaci has rightly been referred to as a “pillar” of Philadelphia’s LGBTQ communities. Perhaps the greatest testament to Jaci’s life is that because of her tireless volunteerism and firebrand advocacy for the downtrodden, forgotten, and overlooked, the foundation of Philadelphia’s LGBTQ communities is stronger than ever; and

WHEREAS, Even without one of its most adored and admired pillars, Jaci’s work in building up so many others to lead has guaranteed Philadelphia LGBTQ communities a future worth applauding. Indeed her many generous community efforts have elicited applause and awards. Jaci was a tireless volunteer for the AIDS Law Project of Pennsylvania and the Philadelphia Police Advisory Board. She was personally

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responsible for many City agencies transforming their policies to become welcoming to the transgender community and even trained rookie police officers; and

WHEREAS, Jaci has been memorialized as having, “personally mentored dozens of young trans[gender] women, as well as being a leader for a broader community of trans[gender people], gay and questioning men, gender-non-conforming people, and straight allies. She saw to it that many got the opportunities that she never had, for decent housing, education, and the support of friends and advocates. She had a global knowledge of the service system in Philadelphia enabling her to direct anyone in need to exactly who could help them

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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 thirteenth day of March, 2014.

Darrell L. Clarke
PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL

Michael A. Decker
CHIEF CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Introduced by: Councilmembers Kenney and Squilla

Sponsored by: Councilmembers Kenney, Squilla, O'Brien, Quiñones Sánchez, Greenlee, Goode and Jones