

RESOLUTION NO. 2024 - _____

CITY OF POMPANO BEACH
Broward County, Florida

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF POMPANO BEACH, FLORIDA, SUPPORTING THE APPLICATION BY THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF BROWARD TO DESIGNATE THE BLANCHE ELY AND SANDERS PARK NEIGHBORHOODS AS A FLORIDA CHILDREN’S INITIATIVE; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, Florida State Statute 409.147 establishes a process to clearly identify severely disadvantaged areas and provides guidance for developing a new social service paradigm that systematically coordinates programs addressing the critical needs of children and their families, and directs efforts to rebuild the basic infrastructure of the community; and

WHEREAS, a Florida Children’s Initiative (FCI) is a designated neighborhood or community in Florida where the infrastructure and opportunities that are often taken for granted in middle-class communities are nonexistent or so marginal that they are ineffective. FCIs are modeled after the nationally recognized Harlem Children’s Zone; and

WHEREAS, it is Florida’s policy to provide the necessary means to assist local communities, the children and families who live in those communities, and the private sector in creating a sound educational, social, and economic environment. To achieve this objective, the state provides investments to encourage community partners to commit financially and with other resources to severely disadvantaged areas; and

WHEREAS, 42.4% of children in the Blanche Ely neighborhood, and 38.9% of children in the Sander’s Park Neighborhood experience poverty, facing significant barriers to upward mobility, which often results in these individuals remaining low-income as adults, reflecting a

critical need for targeted interventions to break the cycle of poverty and support long-term success;
and

WHEREAS, 62% of families living in the Blanche Ely neighborhood and 59% in the Sanders Park neighborhood are housing-cost burdened, spending more than 30% of their income on housing, which creates financial instability and limits their ability to meet other essential needs; reflecting a need for affordable housing solutions to alleviate the economic pressures; and

WHEREAS, the Community Foundation of Broward is applying for a planning grant from the State of Florida to bring the Blanche Ely and Sanders Park neighborhoods together to create a cohesive strategic plan to address the needs and barriers experienced by children and families in these neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, the Community Foundation of Broward, with its extensive experience, established presence in the community, and ability to leverage partnerships from all facets of the Pompano Beach community and beyond, is uniquely positioned to develop and submit this application. The Foundation will bring together the community and resources necessary to address gaps in service delivery and provide a cradle-to-career path forward for the children living in these neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, guiding children out of poverty in the Blanche Ely and Sanders Park neighborhoods must be supported by actions and resource investments to improve infrastructure and the provision of services within the city, in partnership with county, state, and private sectors, to achieve a collective impact; and

WHEREAS, the Community Foundation of Broward will apply for the Florida Children's Initiative Designation on behalf of the Blanche Ely and Sanders Park neighborhoods, which will be modeled after the Harlem Children's Zone and defined by Florida Statute 409.147, to provide

funding that assists disadvantaged areas within the state in creating a community-based service network that develops, coordinates, and provides quality education, accessible healthcare, youth development programs, opportunities for employment, and safe and affordable housing for children and families; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF POMPANO BEACH, FLORIDA:

SECTION 1. That the City hereby recommends and supports the application on behalf of the children and families of the Blanche Ely and Sanders Park neighborhoods to be considered for designation as a Florida Children’s Initiative.

SECTION 2. The City supports the application as written to improve conditions for the Blanche Ely and Sanders Parks neighborhoods.

SECTION 3. This Resolution shall become effective upon passage.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this _____ day of _____, 2024.

REX HARDIN, MAYOR

ATTEST:

KERVIN ALFRED, CITY CLERK

MEB/mcm
9/4/24
L:reso/2024-233