RESOLUTION NO.: 2015-123

RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HIALEAH, FLORIDA, URGING GOVERNOR RICK SCOTT AND THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO ADOPT MORE STRINGENT LEVELS OF SERVICE AT ASSISTED LIVING FACILITIES FOR THE ADEQUATE, EFFECTIVE AND COMPREHENSIVE TREATMENT OF INDIVIDUALS DIVERTED FROM THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM AND PROHIBITING THE PLACEMENT OF ASSISTED LIVING FACILITIES OR COMMUNITY RESIDENTIAL HOMES HOUSING INDIVIDUALS PARTICIPATING IN A JAIL DIVERSION PROGRAM IN RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOODS UNTIL SUCH COMPREHENSIVE QUALITY TREATMENT IS PROVIDED; DIRECTING THE CITY CLERK TO TRANSMIT A COPY OF THIS RESOLUTION TO THE OFFICIALS STATED HEREIN.

WHEREAS, without adequate, effective and comprehensive medical and social services to treat mental and substance abuse the objectives of a jail-diversion program are undermined;

WHEREAS, privatization of treatment at assisted living facilities and community residential homes ("ALF") without stringent service standards, controls on the quality of care, adequate supervision or strict enforcement is a disservice to participants in the jail-diversion program and the public in general;

WHEREAS, allowing poorly run and undersupervised ALFs to house and minimally serve participants in the jail-diversion program denies these individuals the ability to live in dignity and inordinately burdens police and other local resources; and

WHEREAS, allowing poorly run and undersupervised ALFs providing inadequate care to participants in the jail-diversion program in residential neighborhoods negatively affects the quality of life of the residents in our community;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HIALEAH, FLORIDA, THAT:

Section 1. The foregoing facts and recitations contained in the preamble of this resolution are hereby adopted and incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein.

Section 2. The Mayor and the City Council of the City of Hialeah, Florida urge Governor Rick Scott and the Florida Legislature to adopt more stringent levels of service at assisted living facilities for the adequate, effective and comprehensive treatment of individuals diverted from the criminal justice system and prohibit the placement of assisted living facilities or community residential homes housing individuals participating in a jail diversion program in residential neighborhoods until such comprehensive quality treatment is provided.

Section 3. The City Clerk is hereby directed to transmit a copy of this Resolution to Governor Rick Scott and the following members of the Florida Legislature: Representative Bryan Avila, Representative Manny Diaz, Jr., Senator Rene Garcia, and Representative José Oliva.

Section 4. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 22nd day of September, 2015.

Isis Garcia-Martinez
Council President

Attest:

Approved on the 24 day of September, 2015.

Marbelys Fatjo
City Clerk

Mayor Carlos Hernandez

Approved as to legal sufficiency and form:

Lorena E. Bravo, City Attorney

Resolution was adopted by a 6-0-1 vote with Councilmembers, Caragol, Casals-Munoz, Garcia-Martinez, Gonzalez, Hernandez and Lozano voting "Yes", Councilmember Cue-Fuente absent.