

Advisory Board on Disability Affairs

Annual Report for Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2017

In accordance with Section 2.66 “Annual Report” of the City’s Code of Ordinance, the Disability Affairs Board (the “Board”) submits to the City Manager its annual report as follows:

1. *Whether the Board is serving the purpose for which it was created.*

Yes, the Board is serving the purpose for which it was created, which is to advise and provide input to City staff regarding matters affecting individuals with disabilities in an effort to support inclusion and full and effective participation of individuals with disabilities within the City.

2. *A list of the Board’s major accomplishments.*

- The Board provided a Disability Affairs Workshop Series (the “Series”). The Series consisted of four 1-hour workshops held during the months of October through January.
 - The Series included the following topics:
 - Cognitive Impairments;
 - Mobility Impairments;
 - Vision Impairments;
 - Deaf and Hard of Hearing Impairments.
 - The Series was attended by key personnel from all of the City’s departments.
- On October 11, 2016, the City Commission issued a Proclamation proclaiming the Month of October as “Americans with Disabilities Month in Coral Gables.”
- On March 28, 2017, the City Commission passed a resolution declaring principles of inclusion for individuals with autism and other special needs, and urging action by national, state and local governments, businesses, and residential communities consistent with these principles. *(See Exhibit 1)*
- On June 7, 2017, the Board passed a resolution recommending that the City develop a citywide incentive program recognizing business and organizations in the City that have demonstrated a commitment to the principles of inclusion and that have enhanced opportunities for persons with disabilities to fully and effectively participate in everyday community life. *(See Exhibit 2)* The City Commission formally accepted the Board’s recommendation. *(See Exhibit 3)*

- On June 7, 2017, the Board passed a resolution identifying a need to combat social and physical isolation of post-secondary aged adults with disabilities and urging the City of Coral Gables to facilitate cooperation with businesses, universities, disability agencies, organizations and other entities and to actively engage resources towards the development of multi-dimensional cultural, social and recreational opportunities and programs in the City for post-secondary school aged adults with disabilities. *(See Exhibit 4)* The City Commission formally accepted the Board's recommendation. *(See Exhibit 3)*
 - The City's Accessible Recreation Program was featured in an ad in the Neighborhood Section of the Miami Herald on August 13, 2017. *(See Exhibit 5)*
 - The City has initiated a Special Olympics Bocce Program. *(See Exhibit 6).*
 - City hired a Special Populations Coordinator and two Special Populations Counselors to assist with individual accommodations and specialized programming.
 - During the summer of 2017, approximately 25 children with different disabilities participated in the City's summer camp.
 - Ensured that the transportation service being provided by Freebee has an accessible vehicle available.
 - Continued partnership with the Center for Independent Living of South Florida (CIL-SF), which has an office at the Youth Center, and assists individuals with disabilities who call or come into the CIL-SF.
 - Heard presentations from City personnel from the different departments on diverse topics affecting each department as it related to disabilities issues.
 - Heard presentations from organizations on different issues related to disabilities.
3. *Whether the ordinance creating the board should be amended to better enable the board to service the purpose for which it was created.*

The ordinance accurately reflects this Board's mission and does not require amendment.

4. *Whether the board's membership requirements should be modified*

The Board will consider modification of membership requirements in the future, but the Board does not recommend modification at this time.

5. *The cost, both direct and indirect, of maintain the board:*

Approximately \$8,200.00

6. *A report on authorized fundraising, bank accounts and grant applications and approvals.*
N/A

EXHIBIT 1

CITY OF CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-63

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA, DECLARING PRINCIPLES OF INCLUSION FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH AUTISM AND OTHER SPECIAL NEEDS, AND URGING ACTION BY NATIONAL, STATE, AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS, BUSINESSES, AND RESIDENTIAL COMMUNITIES CONSISTENT WITH THESE PRINCIPLES.

WHEREAS, April is National Autism Awareness Month, which provides an opportunity to reflect on the inherent dignity of all human beings, and the importance of including and accommodating children and adults on the autism spectrum, as well as children and adults with other special needs and disabilities in all aspects of daily life; and

WHEREAS, approximately 1 in 68 children have an autism spectrum disorder according to a recent report from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and approximately 1 in 5 individuals have a disability according to the 2010 U.S. Census; and

WHEREAS, the United States of America is a signatory of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, which supports inclusion and accommodation of children and adults with special needs and disabilities; and

WHEREAS, the Convention has identified the following core principles of inclusion:

- a. Respect for inherent dignity, individual autonomy including the freedom to make one's own choices, and independence of persons;
- b. Non-discrimination;
- c. Full and effective participation and inclusion in society;
- d. Respect for difference and acceptance of persons with disabilities as part of human diversity and humanity;
- e. Equality of opportunity;
- f. Accessibility;
- g. Equality between men and women;
- h. Respect for the evolving capacities of children with disabilities and respect for the right of children with disabilities to preserve their identities; and

WHEREAS, inclusion is an attitude, an approach, and a mindset, which welcomes and facilitates participation by those with disabilities and special needs, and encourages accommodations beyond those required by law; and

WHEREAS, the City is committed to the principle of inclusion as demonstrated through the Coral Gables Police Department's collaboration with the Disability Independence Group and UM-NSU CARD (Center for Autism and Related Disabilities) in the development of The Wallet Card Project of the Disability Independence Group, and related training videos, which is a nationally regarded program that assists individuals in informing governmental and police officials of their special needs through The Wallet Card, and trains police officers in interactions with individuals on the autism spectrum and with other special needs; and

WHEREAS, the City and the Coral Gables Police Department's commitment is also demonstrated through its work developing an Autism-Related Standard Operating Procedure for Coral Gables police officers which is intended to set standards nationwide; and

WHEREAS, the City's commitment to inclusion is also demonstrated through its expansion of recreational programs for children with special needs, its mobile permitting program, its provision of space to the Center for Independent Living at the Youth Center, and its Mayor for a Day program with Crystal Academy, a local non-profit academy for children on the autism spectrum, among many other programs; and

WHEREAS, the City's commitment is also demonstrated in the passage of a resolution declaring principles of inclusion for individuals with Autism and other special needs in April of 2016 as well as passage of a resolution declaring principles of inclusion for all individuals with disabilities, passed by the City Commission in October of 2016; and

WHEREAS, the City further demonstrates its commitment to inclusion through its Advisory Board on Disability Affairs, which advises and provides input to City staff regarding matters affecting individuals with disabilities in Coral Gables in an effort to support full inclusion and accommodation; and

WHEREAS, the Advisory Board on Disability Affairs provided four interactive training sessions for City employees on specific disabilities during the last year; and

WHEREAS, the City further demonstrates its commitment to inclusion through the Special Needs Initiative being spearheaded by its School & Community Relations Committee, in conjunction with Miami-Dade Public Schools and UM-NSU CARD, which is actively seeking to promote inclusion of individuals with special needs, and provide additional educational, residential, occupational, and recreational opportunities in doing so;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF CORAL GABLES:

SECTION 1. The foregoing "Whereas" clauses are hereby ratified and confirmed as being true and correct and are hereby made a specific part of this Resolution upon adoption hereof.

SECTION 2. The City expresses its commitment to the principle of inclusion of children and adults with special needs and disabilities in all aspects of its governance and services, and seeks to welcome and facilitate such participation.

SECTION 3. The City urges businesses to express their commitment to the principle of inclusion in both employment and commerce.

SECTION 4. The City urges developers, homeowner associations, and condominium associations to adopt policies supporting the principle of inclusion in residential communities.

SECTION 5. The City urges universities and other places of learning to prioritize programs supporting inclusion of individuals with special needs and disabilities.

SECTION 6. The City urges national, state, and local governments to express their commitment to the principle of inclusion as well, and to continue expanding services to children and adults with special needs and disabilities.

SECTION 7. The Advisory Board on Disability Affairs is commended for its excellent work in this area, and is directed to review the City's initiatives to promote inclusion on an ongoing basis, and provide input to City staff to assist the City in fulfilling this goal

SECTION 8. The School and Community Relations Board is commended for its excellent work in this area as well, and is directed to continue its Special Needs Initiative and to continue working with Miami-Dade Public Schools and UM-NSU CARD to expand opportunities in Coral Gables for individuals with special needs and disabilities.

SECTION 9. The City Clerk is directed to send a copy of this resolution to the National League of Cities, National Association of Counties, Florida League of Cities, Florida Association of Counties, Miami-Dade County League of Cities, Miami-Dade County, Miami-Dade Public Schools, and municipalities in Miami-Dade County.

SECTION 10. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Resolution shall become effective upon its passage and adoption hereof.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS TWENTY-EIGHTH DAY OF MARCH, A.D., 2017.

(Moved: Lago / Seconded: Slesnick)

(Yeas: Quesada, Slesnick, Keon, Lago, Cason)

(Unanimous: 5-0 Vote)

(Agenda Item: F-1)

APPROVED:



JIM CASON
MAYOR

ATTEST:



WALTER J. FOEMAN
CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM
AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:



CRAIG E. LEEN
CITY ATTORNEY

EXHIBIT 2

CITY OF CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA

**RESOLUTION
CORAL GABLES ADVISORY BOARD ON DISABILITY AFFAIRS**

A RESOLUTION BY THE CORAL GABLES ADVISORY BOARD ON DISABILITY AFFAIRS RECOMMENDING THAT THE CITY OF CORAL GABLES DEVELOP A CITYWIDE INCENTIVE PROGRAM RECOGNIZING BUSINESSES AND ORGANIZATIONS IN THE CITY THAT HAVE DEMONSTRATED A COMMITMENT TO THE PRINCIPLES OF INCLUSION AND THAT HAVE ENHANCED OPPORTUNITIES FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES TO FULLY AND EFFECTIVELY PARTICIPATE IN EVERYDAY COMMUNITY LIFE.

WHEREAS, inclusion is an attitude, an approach, and a mindset, which welcomes and facilitates participation by those with disabilities and special needs, and encourages accommodations beyond those required by law; and

WHEREAS, the City of Coral Gables (the "City") through its Advisory Board on Disability Affairs (the "Board") advises and provides input to City staff regarding matters affecting individuals with disabilities in an effort to support full and effective participation of the disabled in our community; and

WHEREAS, the City has passed resolutions expressing its commitment to the principles of inclusion for individuals with disabilities and has urged action by local businesses organizations and residential communities consistent with these principles to eliminate barriers, to enhance accessibility and to demonstrate opportunities for full and effective participation by the disabled in our community life; and

WHEREAS, it is recognized that social, economic and community benefits result from businesses and organizations becoming increasingly inclusive and empowering individuals with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, in an effort to promote inclusion by the businesses and organizations within the City, it is incumbent upon the City to encourage businesses and organizations to become more inclusive of individuals with disabilities; and


WHEREAS, the Board recommends that the City develop a program recognizing businesses that have demonstrated a commitment to the principles of inclusion.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CORAL GABLES ADVISORY BOARD ON DISABILITY AFFAIRS:

Section 1. The foregoing "Whereas" clauses are hereby ratified and confirmed as being true and correct and are hereby made a specific part of this Resolution upon adoption hereof.

Section 2. That the Coral Gables Advisory Board on Disability Affairs recommends that the City of Coral Gables develop a citywide incentive program recognizing businesses and organizations in the City that have demonstrated a commitment to the principles of inclusion and that have enhanced opportunities for persons with disabilities to fully and effectively participate in everyday community life.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE CORAL GABLES ADVISORY BOARD ON
DISABILITY AFFAIRS THIS 7th DAY OF JUNE, A.D., 2017.


RAQUEL ELEJABARRIETA
SECRETARY TO THE BOARD


Approved as to form and legal sufficiency

Cristina M. Suarez
Assistant City Attorney

EXHIBIT 3

CITY OF CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA

RESOLUTION 2017-_____

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA, ACCEPTING RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE DISABILITY AFFAIRS BOARD AND DIRECTING STUDY AND ACTION IN ACCORDANCE THEREWITH

WHEREAS, the Advisory Board on Disability Affairs advises and provides input to City staff regarding matters affecting individuals with disabilities in an effort to support inclusion and full and effective participation of individuals with disabilities within the City of Coral Gables; and

WHEREAS, in June of 2017 the Advisory Board on Disability Affairs (the “Board”) passed two resolutions requesting action from the City Commission; and

WHEREAS, one resolution identified a need to combat social and physical isolation of post-secondary school aged adults with disabilities and urged the City to facilitate cooperation with businesses, universities and other entities and to actively engage resources towards the development of multi-dimensional cultural, social and recreational opportunities and programs in the City for post-secondary school aged adults with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, the second resolution recommended that the City develop a program recognizing businesses and organizations that have demonstrated a commitment to the principles of inclusion; and

WHEREAS, the City is committed to principles of inclusion in many ways, including its collaboration with the Disability Independence Group and UM-NSU CARD on the Wallet Card Program, its provision of space to the Center for Independent Living at the Youth Center, in the passage of resolutions declaring principles of inclusion for individuals with Autism and other special needs in April of 2016 and 2017, as well as passage of a resolution declaring principles of inclusion for all individuals with disabilities, passed by the City Commission in October of 2016; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission formally accepts the recommendations of the Board and directs City staff to study the programs and opportunities suggested by the Board, and directs staff to take action in accordance with the results of any studies and the Board’s recommendations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF CORAL GABLES:

SECTION 1. The foregoing “Whereas” clauses are hereby ratified and confirmed as being true and correct and are hereby made a specific part of this Resolution upon adoption hereof.

SECTION 2. That the City Commission formally accepts the recommendations of the Coral Gables Advisory Board of Disability Affairs.

SECTION 3. That the City Commission directs City staff to study the programs and opportunities suggested by the Board in the two resolutions passed by the Board in June of 2017, and that the City Commission directs staff to take action in accordance with the results of any studies and the Board's recommendations.

SECTION 4. That this Resolution shall become effective upon the date of its passage and adoption herein.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, A.D., 2017.
(Moved: ____ / Seconded: ____)
(Yeas:)
(Unanimous:)
(Non-Agenda Item)

APPROVED:

RAÚL VALDÉS-FAULI
MAYOR

ATTEST:

WALTER J. FOEMAN
CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND
LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:

CRAIG E. LEEN
CITY ATTORNEY

EXHIBIT 4

CITY OF CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA

**RESOLUTION
CORAL GABLES ADVISORY BOARD ON DISABILITY AFFAIRS**

A RESOLUTION BY THE CORAL GABLES ADVISORY BOARD ON DISABILITY AFFAIRS IDENTIFYING A NEED TO COMBAT SOCIAL AND PHYSICAL ISOLATION OF POST-SECONDARY AGED ADULTS WITH DISABILITIES AND URGING THE CITY OF CORAL GABLES TO FACILITATE COOPERATION WITH BUSINESSES, UNIVERSITIES, DISABILITY AGENCIES, ORGANIZATIONS AND OTHER ENTITIES AND TO ACTIVELY ENGAGE RESOURCES TOWARDS THE DEVELOPMENT OF MULTI-DIMENSIONAL CULTURAL, SOCIAL AND RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES AND PROGRAMS IN THE CITY FOR POST-SECONDARY SCHOOL AGED ADULTS WITH DISABILITIES.

WHEREAS, inclusion is an attitude, an approach, and a mindset, which welcomes and facilitates participation by those with disabilities and special needs, and encourages accommodations beyond those required by law; and

WHEREAS, the City of Coral Gables (the "City") through its Advisory Board on Disability Affairs advises and provides input to City staff regarding matters affecting individuals with disabilities in an effort to support full and effective participation of the disabled in our community; and

WHEREAS, the City has passed resolutions expressing its commitment to the principles of inclusion for individuals with disabilities and has urged action by national, state and local governments, and businesses and residential communities consistent with these principles; and

WHEREAS, there are many cultural, social and recreational programs and services designed for the participation and inclusion of young children with disabilities, but not for post-secondary school aged adults with disabilities; and

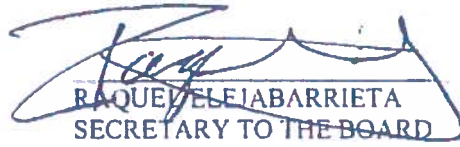
WHEREAS, the Board has identified a need to combat social and physical isolation of post-secondary school aged adults with disabilities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CORAL GABLES ADVISORY BOARD ON DISABILITY AFFAIRS:

Section 1. That the foregoing "Whereas" clauses are hereby ratified and confirmed as being true and correct and are hereby made a specific part of this Resolution upon adoption hereof.

Section 2. That the Coral Gables Advisory Board on Disability Affairs has identified a need to combat social and physical isolation of post-secondary school aged adults with disabilities and urges the City of Coral Gables to facilitate cooperation with businesses, universities, disability agencies, organizations and other entities and to actively engage resources towards the development of multi-dimensional cultural, social and recreational opportunities and programs in the City for post-secondary school aged adults with disabilities.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE CORAL GABLES ADVISORY BOARD ON DISABILITY AFFAIRS THIS 7th DAY OF JUNE, A.D., 2017.


RAQUEL ELEJABARRIETA
SECRETARY TO THE BOARD

Approved as to form and legal sufficiency


Cristina M. Suarez
Assistant City Attorney

EXHIBIT 5

CORAL GABLES®

THE CITY BEAUTIFUL

It's All About Inclusion!



The City of Coral Gables welcomes individuals with disabilities.

We offer accessible, inclusive and well-rounded recreational programs at all of our locations:

- War Memorial Youth Center
- Venetian Pool
- Biltmore & Salvatore Tennis Centers
- Granada Golf Course
- Adult Activity Center

The objective of the City's Accessible Recreation Program is to make recreational experiences fun, meaningful, beneficial and accessible through inclusion initiatives, individual accommodations and specialized programming.

For more information, contact us at 305-460-5344 or via email at ADA@coralgables.com.

Closed Captioning Now Available!

Closed captioning is now available for Coral Gables City Commission Meetings. Tune in to Channel 77 on Comcast or live stream the meetings on CoralGables.com/CGTV.

Reasonable Accommodation

The City has appointed an ADA Coordinator to assist all requests for reasonable accommodations and provide information to individuals with disabilities.

TTY/TDD: 305-442-1600

Voice: 305-722-8686



Coral Gables Advisory Board on Disability Affairs

Appointed by the City Commission, this board advises and provides input regarding matters affecting individuals with disabilities in an effort to support full inclusion and participation of the disabled in our community.

We Welcome Service Dogs!



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Coralgables.com/CityApp



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EXHIBIT 6



SPECIAL OLYMPICS BOCCE PROGRAM

Ages 8 - 15 years old

Wednesdays, 5:00 p.m. - 5:45 p.m.

Ages 16 years old and above

Wednesdays, 6:00 p.m. - 6:45 p.m.

This program provides adaptive and inclusive sports training with opportunities for competition in Bocce, which is a recognized Special Olympics Sport.

Special Olympics programming provides opportunities for individuals with intellectual disabilities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy, and strengthen friendships with their families and other Special Olympics athletes in the community.

Session 1: September 6 - 27

Session 2: October 4 - 25

Session 3: November 1 - 22

Four-Week Session Fee:

Resident: \$35

Non-Resident: \$45

Registration is open to participants with and without disabilities.

Coral Gables Parks and Recreation • 405 University Drive • Coral Gables, FL 33134 • 305-460-5600

ADA Notice: The City welcomes individuals with disabilities. To request a modification to a policy, practice or procedure or to request an auxiliary aide or service (such as a sign language interpreter) in order to participate in a City program, activity or event, please contact the City's ADA Coordinator Raquel Elejabarrieta or the Director of the sponsoring department at least seven (7) days in advance where circumstances permit. ADA Coordinator Raquel Elejabarrieta may be reached by email: ada@coralgables.com, or by telephone 305-722-8686 (voice) or 305-442-1600 (TTY/TDD).

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www.coralgables.com



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