

**CITY OF MERCER ISLAND, WASHINGTON
RESOLUTION NO. 1681**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF MERCER ISLAND, WASHINGTON
RECOGNIZING THE MERCER ISLAND YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICES
FOUNDATION'S CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICES
DEPARTMENT AND THE CITY OF MERCER ISLAND.**

WHEREAS, the Mercer Island Youth and Family Services Foundation (Foundation), a 501(C)(3) organization, was established in 1989 to increase private funding for the City of Mercer Island Department of Youth and Family Services (YFS) and is comprised of a volunteer Board of Directors from the community supported by a paid Executive Director, Amy French, and Engagement Specialist, Lisa Swanson; and

WHEREAS, the Foundation's mission is to raise funds to support YFS services so it can provide quality human services to all Islanders by harnessing the financial contributions of YFS supporters through innovative fund-raising strategies including a Back-to-School fundraisers, Holiday Tree Lot, Annual Breakfast with over 500 participants, major donor development, and many school and community-based events; and

WHEREAS, in 2023 the City entered into a new four-year funding agreement that formalized the Foundation's increased annual contribution to YFS at \$515,000 gifted to the City for YFS services annually and in 2024, the City accepted additional funds to support cost increases related to City staff classification and compensation related salary increases; and

WHEREAS, the Foundation's financial giving has directly supported YFS and City efforts to maintain or expand YFS staffing for Middle School Counselors, Senior Services staff, and to help rebuild YFS staffing levels after pandemic-related reductions; and

WHEREAS, the Foundation historically has responded to emergent community needs identified by YFS and outside their regular giving with additional donations to YFS programs including the back-to-school supplies program, holiday meal and gift program, food security efforts (Food Pantry and pandemic era food card distribution program), and additional Emergency Assistance needs including preschool and daycare scholarships; and

WHEREAS, the Foundation's historic public-private partnership with the City has played a significant role in the sustainability of the YFS Department and the positive impact of the behavioral health and basic needs services it provides to Mercer Island residents across the lifespan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERCER ISLAND, WASHINGTON, AS FOLLOWS:

That the City of Mercer Island recognizes the substantial financial support, both historic and current, of the Mercer Island Youth and Family Services Foundation for the City's Youth and Family Services Department and the impact that support has on the well-being of Island residents across the life span.

PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERCER ISLAND, WASHINGTON, AT ITS MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 2, 2025.

CITY OF MERCER ISLAND

Salim Nice, Mayor

ATTEST:

Andrea Larson, City Clerk