

# Resolution



ORDER NO: 2017-0716

DATE: June 6, 2017

STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF DALLAS §

**BE IT REMEMBERED**, at a regular meeting of the Commissioners Court of Dallas County, Texas, held on the 6th day of June, 2017, on a motion made by Dr. Theresa M. Daniel, Commissioner of District 1, and seconded by John Wiley Price, Commissioner of District 3, the following Resolution was adopted:

**WHEREAS**, In 1987, at the height of the AIDS crisis that was devastating the Dallas gay community, founders Michael R. Merdian and Daryl M. Moore formed AIDS Services of Dallas (ASD) to provide people living with HIV/AIDS much needed shelter, food and care; and

**WHEREAS**, AIDS Services of Dallas is the largest agency of its kind in Texas and has four residential facilities in Dallas County; and

**WHEREAS**, After facing early hardships in acquiring properties for housing, including discrimination, eviction, financial misdealing and protests, the agency was able to establish its first residence, initially called "A Place for Us" and now known as "Ewing House"; and

**WHEREAS**, While neither Mr. Moore nor Mr. Merdian lived to see the realization of their early efforts, ASD has provided thousands of people necessary and critical services for over 30 years. In that time, AIDS Services of Dallas has changed from losing four to five people a week to HIV/AIDS, compared to now when ASD has parking issues at their residences; and

**WHEREAS**, In 1989, lawyer Don Maison was hired to serve as executive director and is the longest-serving executive director of an AIDS agency in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Maison states that "Providing people with a decent place to live gives them dignity and pride. Their lives have been enriched and their health improved. I'm proud that we're a top-notch program recognized throughout the country as among the very best."

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Dallas County Commissioners Court does hereby congratulate and thank AIDS Services of Dallas for 30 years of service to the community and for all of the healing and caring provided to people in need.

**DONE IN OPEN COURT** this the 6th day of June, 2017.

Clay Lewis Jenkins  
Clay Lewis Jenkins  
County Judge

Dr. Theresa M. Daniel  
Dr. Theresa M. Daniel  
Commissioner, District 1

ABSENT  
Mike Cantrell  
Commissioner, District 2

John Wiley Price  
John Wiley Price  
Commissioner, District 3

Dr. Elba Garcia  
Dr. Elba Garcia  
Commissioner, District 4