

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF ORLANDO, FLORIDA DESIGNATING ORLANDO AS A COMPASSIONATE CITY

WHEREAS, Karen Armstrong, a respected scholar who studies the connections between world religions, was awarded the 2008 TED Prize of \$100,000 to carry out her groundbreaking work and one wish for a better world; and

WHEREAS, with that funding and the support of the TED organization, Karen Armstrong created the Charter for Compassion; and

WHEREAS, the Compassionate Action Network International and the Campaign for Compassionate Cities were created to promote the Charter for Compassion; and

WHEREAS, compassion serves as a central principle of all ethical, spiritual and moral traditions and is defined as a standard whereby each individual treats all others as each of us wishes to be treated; and

WHEREAS, the City of Orlando prides itself on being an inclusive city where all are welcome and where peace, unity and compassion are celebrated; and studies have shown that compassion promotes happiness and increases productivity and innovation; and

WHEREAS, following the Pulse tragedy in June of 2016, our community showed the world that love and compassion can defeat hate and that we are stronger when we are united; and

WHEREAS, by becoming a more compassionate city, region, and nation, citizens become empowered to develop a sense of cooperation and reinvigorated hope; and

WHEREAS, the City Council recognizes that compassion should serve as a priority consideration when serving our citizens, while providing opportunities for our citizens to serve others through City-sponsored events and when making policy decisions.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ORLANDO THE FOLLOWING:

Section 1. The City of Orlando is designated as a Compassionate City by the International Compassion Action Network, and affirms the Charter of Compassion.

Section 2. The City Council affirms and endorses the principles of compassion and hereby encourages government, citizens, businesses and organizations to work together to embrace and apply compassionate solutions in all sectors, private and public.

Section 3. The City Council encourages all individuals residing and working in Metro Orlando to personally affirm the Charter for Compassion and strive to live and act compassionately.

Section 4. The City will continue to find ways that local government can actively engage the principles of a Compassionate City to support compassion and service in our community.

ADOPTED by an affirmative vote of a majority of a quorum present at the City Council of the City of Orlando, Florida's regular meeting, this 29th day of August 2016.