



City of Pittsburgh

510 City-County Building
414 Grant Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Text File

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Committee: City Council

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WHEREAS, **The Highmark Caring Place** champions the cause of grieving children by creating awareness of their needs, providing programs for them and their families and empowering the community to effectively support them. The first Caring Place facility opened in Pittsburgh in 1997 and has expanded to locations in Erie, Harrisburg and Warrendale; and,

WHEREAS, **Children's Grief Awareness Day** began in Pennsylvania out of a partnership between the Highmark Caring Place and hundreds of schools across the state whose students wanted to do more to bring attention to what their classmates were dealing with; and,

WHEREAS, **Children's Grief Awareness Day** seeks to bring attention to the fact that often support can make all the difference in the life of a grieving child. The Day provides an opportunity to raise awareness of the painful impact that the death of a loved one has on the life of a child; and,

WHEREAS, **Children's Grief Awareness Day** is observed every year on the third Thursday in November and is a particularly appropriate time to support grieving children because the holiday season is especially difficult after a death; and,

WHEREAS, in just four years, over 100,000 students in hundreds of schools across Pennsylvania are participating in **Children's Grief Awareness Day** by wearing blue, visiting and "liking" the Facebook page, participating in the Holding on to HOPE campaign and demonstrating solidarity through any level of awareness and participation with a grieving child.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does hereby recognize and commend the **Highmark Caring Place** for its focused and compassionate mission to help grieving children and for its efforts to promote **Children's Grief Awareness Day** so that all grieving children can receive support at all levels in the community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does hereby declare Tuesday, November 15, 2012, to be "**CHILDREN'S GRIEF AWARENESS DAY**" in the City of Pittsburgh.