



Text File

Introduced: 5/26/2015

Bill No: 2015-1684, **Version:** 1

Committee: City Council

Status: Adopted

WHEREAS, in 1995, Dr. Caroline Acker co-founded Prevention Point Pittsburgh with James Crow, thus establishing Allegheny County's only harm reduction and syringe exchange program; and,

WHEREAS, Dr. Acker served the community for 20 years as board member, chair and active volunteer at Prevention Point Pittsburgh, working tirelessly to improve the health of residents of the City and County by reducing cases of HIV, hepatitis and other blood-borne illnesses, broadening the range of prevention services available to injection drug users, and increasing awareness of their health needs; and,

WHEREAS, as a result of the efforts of Dr. Acker and her colleagues, more than 21,000 county residents have received disease prevention, health promotion, and overdose prevention services through Prevention Point Pittsburgh; and,

WHEREAS, Dr. Acker received the 2008 Benjamin Rush Individual Public Health Award from the Allegheny County Medical Society for her outstanding contributions to the betterment of the health and welfare of the citizens of Allegheny County; and,

WHEREAS, since 1993, Dr. Acker has been member of the faculty, Associate Professor and Department Head of the Department of History at Carnegie Mellon University, where she has taught and mentored countless undergraduate and graduate students while advancing the needs of the Department of History and its faculty and promoting the University; and,

WHEREAS, Dr. Acker is an internationally recognized historian of medicine and public health, with expertise in opiate addiction and the intersection between AIDS and drug policy; and,

WHEREAS, Dr. Acker has been a tireless booster of the City of Pittsburgh, Allegheny County, and Western Pennsylvania, with a citizen's dedication, an activist's commitment and a scholar's interest in its people, its history, and its future; and,

WHEREAS, Dr. Acker has been a devoted resident of Bloomfield and Highland Park, cultivating friends, neighbors, and local culture as well as her garden. Friends, neighbors, students, and colleagues will dearly miss her, and her absence will be keenly felt throughout Pittsburgh and Allegheny County.

WHEREAS, Dr. Acker is retiring from her career at Carnegie Mellon University and her volunteer efforts at Prevention Point Pittsburgh and joining her children and grandchildren in the San Francisco Bay Area, where Pittsburgh's loss will be Berkeley's gain.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does hereby recognize Dr.

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Caroline Acker for her years of providing the highest quality care to those in need in the Pittsburgh community; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does hereby declare July 4, 2015 to be “Dr. Caroline Acker Day” in the City of Pittsburgh.