



1       **WHEREAS**, the death of a ten (10)-year-old child on March 12, 2021, in a City park while with her  
2 family has made this situation untenable and as the local Governing Authority with the authority to act, we  
3 must take the necessary action and allocate the resources including staff support, to address this crisis. I  
4 am therefore, making an emergency request for Prevention, Intervention and Treatment (PIT) Funding to  
5 establish a Youth Violence Intervention Center.

6       **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE**  
7 **CITY OF LITTLE ROCK:**

8       **Section 1.** The City Board of Directors of the City of Little Rock:

- 9       a. Shall address the current crisis caused by youth violence crisis as a part of the framework  
10 established pursuant to Little Rock, Ark., Resolution No. 15,382 (January 19, 2021) as the  
11 Targeted Community Development Initiative (“TCDI”) that outlined the social and structural  
12 conditions that have led to poverty and disinvested communities in the targeted areas and  
13 requested a funding allocation of Five Million Dollars (\$5,000,000.00) from available and  
14 future funding to address these issues;
- 15       b. Shall initially fund this Youth Violence Initiative as part of the TCDI with an amount not to  
16 exceed Seven Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$700,000.00) to be taken from unused program  
17 revenues for Prevention, Intervention & Treatment (“PIT”) Programs initially funded as part  
18 of the 1993 Future-Little Rock Sales and Compensating Use Tax; and,
- 19       c, Directs the City Manager to create a special fund so that the monies utilized by this Youth  
20 Violence Initiative are subject to proper review and audit; and,
- 21       d. Declares that because of time and the work already done by the Derek Olivier Research Institute  
22 for the Prevention of Violence at Arkansas Baptist College it is impractical and unfeasible and  
23 submit this initial pilot project to a competitive selection process.

24       **Section 2.** The Board of Directors strongly encourages the Mayor and City Manager to direct the  
25 Community Programs Department to establish a Youth Violence Prevention Center as a part of its Youth  
26 Master Plan immediately upon passage of this ordinance by emergency clause.

27       **Section 3.** Because of the unique research and work the done with data as to the impact of violence  
28 on youth within the City of Little Rock, and the inability to efficiently to recreate such data, the Board  
29 determines that it is impractical and unfeasible to bid the initial contract for the pilot project to create this  
30 youth violence initiative, and therefore waives a competitive selection process and awards an initial contract  
31 to Arkansas Baptist College working through the Derek Olivier Research Institute for the Prevention of  
32 Violence to obtain, evaluate, and document data on the number of youth within the City of Little Rock,  
33 Arkansas, who have been the perpetrator or victim of criminal violent acts starting with calendar year 2020,  
34 and to recommend programs to be utilized within the existing framework of the Community Programs  
35 Department to establish the Little Rock Youth Violence Prevention Center; further, to require that every

1 three (3) months the Board of Directors shall receive from Arkansas Baptist College a written report on the  
2 work that has been done to date, the programs that have been implemented with an evaluation of the  
3 operation of such a program, and a recommendation as to additional areas and programs to be pursued.

4 **Section 4.** The Board of Directors further acknowledges the work that has been done by City Director  
5 Doris Wright in the development of the West Central Youth Violence Prevention Center Project. This plan  
6 developed in collaboration with the Community Programs Department, Little Rock Police Department,  
7 Derek Olivier Research Institute at Arkansas Baptist College and Second Baptist Church, directs staff to  
8 use this plan as the pilot project to be implemented by the Youth Violence Prevention Center.

9 **Section 5.** The Board of Directors calls on the Mayor and City Manager to provide a report on this  
10 Youth Violence initiative as a part of the Targeted Community Development Initiative bi-annual update to  
11 the City Board regarding the progress of work performed pursuant to this ordinance.

12 **Section 6. Severability.** In the event any title, section, paragraph, item, sentence, clause, phrase, or  
13 word of this ordinance is declared or adjudged to be invalid or unconstitutional, such declaration or  
14 adjudication shall not affect the remaining portions of the ordinance on which shall remain in full force and  
15 effect as if the portion so declared or adjudged invalid or unconstitutional were not originally a part of the  
16 ordinance.

17 **Section 7. Repealer.** All laws, resolutions, or parts of the same, that are inconsistent with the  
18 provisions of this ordinance, are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

19 **Section 8. Emergency Clause.** *The involvement of youth in criminal violence within a*  
20 *community as a perpetrator, victim, bystander, witness, or simply a community citizen, is adverse to a safe*  
21 *environment for youth to grow, learn, and become, productive members of society; the causes of such*  
22 *violence must be studied and understood, and programs must be developed to help eliminate to the*  
23 *maximum extent possible such violence in order to maintain the public health, safety, and welfare; an*  
24 *emergency is, therefore, declared to exist and this ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after*  
25 *the date of its passage.*

26 **ADOPTED: April 27, 2021**

27 **ATTEST:**

**APPROVED:**

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30 **Susan Langley, City Clerk**

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31 **APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM:**

**SPONSOR:**

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34 **Thomas M. Carpenter, City Attorney**

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