

1 [Supporting the Community Youth Center’s Bayview Youth Advocates Pledge Campaign]

2 **Resolution supporting Community Youth Center’s Bayview Youth Advocates pledge campaign**
 3 **to reduce violence, raise environmental awareness, and improve individual youth in the**
 4 **community.**

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 6 WHEREAS, Young people in the Bayview continuously deal with many obstacles, including but
 7 not limited to environmental problems, physical violence, psychological trauma and academic barriers;
 8 and

9 WHEREAS, The Bayview has a great amount of toxicity and litter that negatively affect the city
 10 environmentally and financially and are issues not solely caused by young people;¹ and

11 WHEREAS, While 61% of California jobs require a college credential, only 27% of San
 12 Francisco Unified School district 9th grade students are on track to graduate with A-G requirements—
 13 and less than 10% of African-American and Latino students;² and

14 WHEREAS, Suicide is the third leading cause of death among teenagers, and bullying victims
 15 are 2-9 times more likely to consider suicide than non-bullying victims, and 160,000 students stay
 16 home from school for fear of being bullied;³ and

17 WHEREAS, Mentoring has many positive effects, including decreasing the chances of youth
 18 using illegal drugs improving academic performance⁴—and improving the mentor’s life, too; and

19 WHEREAS, Violence harms young people in many San Francisco communities, especially in
 20 the Bayview;⁵ and

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24 ² Bridge to Success website, <http://sfbridgetosuccess.org/measuring-our-progress/>

25 ³ Bullying Statistics, <http://www.bullyingstatistics.org/content/bullying-and-suicide.html>; “Bullied to Death in America’s Schools,” Jim Dubreuil and Eamon McNiff, ABC 20/20, October 15, 2011, <http://abcnews.go.com/2020/TheLaw/school-bullying-epidemic-turning-deadly/story?id=11880841>.

⁴ *Making a Difference: An Impact Study of Big Brothers Big Sisters*, Joseph P. Tierney and Jean Baldwin Grossman with Nancy L. Resch, Public/Private Ventures, 1995. http://www.ppv.org/ppv/publications/assets/111_publication.pdf.

1 WHEREAS, Youth leaders of the Community Youth Center’s (CYC) Bayview Youth Advocates
2 (BYA) have created pledges to address the issues previously mentioned, and these youth have
3 developed a campaign to promote healthier mentalities youth to adopt healthier in San Francisco and
4 beyond.

5 WHEREAS, These pledges include:

6 “I pledge to make a difference in the community by starting with myself;”

7 “I pledge to stop littering because I care about my community;”

8 “I pledge to refrain from cursing because I want to stop promoting negativity;”

9 “I pledge to react to violence with logic, compassion and understanding;”

10 “I pledge to treat all people with respect as I want to be respected;”

11 “I pledge to help others to the best of my abilities as others may help me;”

12 “I pledge to do my best in school as it is an investment in my future;”

13 “I pledge to stay open minded and embrace different perspectives;”

14 “I pledge to accept others without judgment or prejudice as they would accept me;”

15 “I pledge to live a life with purpose and meaning;” and

16 WHEREAS, The Youth Commission’s Chartered task is to identify the unmet needs of the
17 children and youth of San Francisco and to advise the Board of Supervisors and Mayor with policy
18 recommendations; now, therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, That the Youth Commission endorses this inspiring pledge campaign created by
20 those youth leaders from the Community Youth Center’s Bayview Youth Advocates; and be it further

21 RESOLVED, That the Youth Commission urges the Board of Supervisors and the Mayor to
22 acknowledge and endorse this grassroots pledge campaign with goals of getting young people to
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25 ⁵ For example, aside from Golden Gate Park, the Bayview has the highest number of homicides per 1,000 residents of any neighborhood in San Francisco between 2005-2007. The Healthy Development Measurement Tool, San Francisco Department of Public Health, <http://thehdm.org/indicators/view/79>

1 refrain from littering, promote nonviolence, perform well in academics, prevent bullying, serve the
2 community, and be exemplary young people overall.

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