

**RESOLUTION No. 16-645**

**WHEREAS**, the City Council and the Mayor of the City of Huntsville, Alabama are apprised that the Inner City Church of Christ will celebrate its Annual Youth Weekend on September 10, 2016; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Inner City Church of Christ began as a summer backyard kids club in Councill Court by the Mayfair teens under the leadership of Lee Milam. Around 1993, the Inner City began to plant its seed in the community with the Sidewalk Sunday School in Councill Court, which later became the Tuesday Night Bus Ministry. The official meeting place was the Scruggs Center. The Mayfair Youth Group was very involved with the ministry, particularly reaching out to the children in the community. The Inner City Church of Christ was planted by the Mayfair Church of Christ in 1995. Sid (Patty) Smith was the ministry leader. The Mayfair elders and members, with sincere love for the Lord, took the Word of God to the families in the Inner City Community; and,

**WHEREAS**, the first preacher at the Inner City Church was Lynn Brisco (and family). After about two years, James and Kimberly Williams replaced the Briscos. In March of 1998, Phil (Diane) Kinzer and family assumed the leadership of the ministry. It was also at this time the church started meeting at the building on Stokes Avenue. During the winter of 1999, the church moved to 309 Seminole Drive; and,

**WHEREAS**, during the same time, the Kinzer family relocated to Nashville. Joe McConnell joined the staff as Preacher/Evangelist, and worked along with James Williams for a period of time. The Nashville Inner City Ministries partnered with Mayfair Inner City Church and Joe McConnell and initiated the first Catfish Dinner, which provided the biggest contribution for its outreach. Shortly thereafter, Joe McConnell resigned his position at the Inner City Church of Christ and Art Leslie joined the staff. Art (Cynthia) Leslie served as the Minister and Youth Minister. James Williams left Inner City to pursue other ministry interests; and,

**WHEREAS**, during the tenure of Art Leslie, Deacon Brian (Jane) Hinson, Jerry (Ann) Minor, and Elder George (Linda) Smith began to oversee the ministry. In 2008, God saw fit to bring Tim Smith (wife, Michelle and son, Sherif) to Huntsville, Alabama. Tim became the minister later that same year after Art's resignation. They were joined by the Dorsey family in July of 2009. Oscar Dorsey served as the Youth Minister and Director of the Learning Center until May 2010. In August 2010, Sebrun and LaKeyia Branch were added to the Inner City family as Youth Minister/Worship Leader and Learning Center Director, respectively. In March 2013, Jahnitta Lovejoy became the Learning Center Director; and,

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**WHEREAS**, in 2003, Inner City Church of Christ kicked off L.I.F.T., a summer program where we allowed elementary-school students to attend Vocational Bible School for two weeks. Later in 2005, Connect3 was developed for 6th-8th grade students so they could also attend the summer program. In 2006, the church began its operation of the Huntsville Inner City Learning Center, held 4 days out of the week from 3:30-5:30 p.m. During this time, children receive tutoring and a hot meal from the volunteers. SOAR, a mentoring program, was introduced in January 2007. In 2008, the church started its First Annual Youth Weekend. In that same year, the church celebrated its First Annual Homecoming; and,

**WHEREAS**, over the past 18 years, God has blessed the church with baptisms, leaders, teachers, and many others who have a desire to serve others through outreach and evangelism.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the City Council and Mayor of the City of Huntsville, Alabama, do hereby acknowledge and extend best wishes to the Inner City Church of Christ on holding their Annual Youth Weekend. May you have continued success in all future endeavors.

**ADOPTED** this the 8<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2016.

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President of the City Council of the  
City of Huntsville, Alabama

**APPROVED** this the 8<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2016.

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Mayor of the City of Huntsville, Alabama