

BY, ALDS. PEREZ, SPIKER, BROWER, BURGELIS, TAYLOR, BAUMAN, JACKSON, WESTMORELAND, CHAMBERS, PRATT, COGGS, ZAMARRIPA, MOORE, STAMPER

Resolution congratulating Ana Garcia-Ashley on her retirement from Gamaliel Foundation.

WHEREAS,

ANA GARCIA-ASHLEY

retired with pride and satisfaction as executive director of Gamaliel Foundation and a special celebration was held on October 23, 2025; and

WHEREAS, *Ana Garcia-Ashley graduated from the University of Colorado in Denver, and began her career in Denver in 1981, where she organized The Concerned Citizens of Westwood, and she affiliated with the Metropolitan Organization for People in 1982 and went on to work on local and state campaigns, including enforcement of the Community Reinvestment Act and affordable public services; and*

WHEREAS, *Deeply interested in the intersection of politics and faith, Ana attended the Iliff School of Theology in Denver to develop a foundation for organizing congregations, and during her theological studies and organizing, her conviction deepened that organizing was a divine calling for her—the purpose of the miracle that allowed her and her family to safely emigrate from the Dominican Republic to the United States; and*

WHEREAS, *Ana began her work in Gamaliel in the early 1990s, as Lead Organizer of MICAH (Milwaukee Inner City Congregations Allied for Hope), and during her tenure there, the organization won a \$500 million reinvestment commitment from the city's banks, and she was also the founding organizer for WISDOM, the Gamaliel-affiliated Wisconsin state organization; and*

WHEREAS, *In 2011, Ana became first woman of color to lead a national community organizing network, faith-based or otherwise, when she was named the executive director of Gamaliel, a national network for faith-based community organizing and an entity dedicated to systemic change: engaging congregations in the work of feeding the hungry, caring for the sick, and sheltering the homeless, but also in the work of transforming the oppressive systems that leave so many people without food, health insurance, or homes in the first place; now, therefore, be it*

RESOLVED, *That the Common Council of the City of Milwaukee herewith congratulates Ana Garcia-Ashley on her retirement from Gamaliel Foundation, extends its appreciation on behalf of the community for her many positive contributions, and wishes for her a happy and healthy retirement; and, be it*

FURTHER RESOLVED, *That a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution be presented to Ana Garcia-Ashley.*

Introduced by Common Council members José G. Pérez, Scott Spiker, Alex Brower, Peter Burgelis, Larresa Taylor, Robert J. Bauman, DiAndre Jackson, Lamont Westmoreland, Mark Chambers, Jr., Andrea M. Pratt, Milele A. Coggs, JoCasta Zamarripa, Sharlen Moore and Russell W. Stamper, II and approved by all members of the Milwaukee Common Council on November 4, 2025.