



CITY COUNCIL MEMBER AT-LARGE KATHERINE GILMORE RICHARDSON

Intensive Behavioral Health Services (IBHS) Coordinating Council Meeting
Friday, June 17, 2022



Katherine Gilmore Richardson COUNCILMEMBER AT-LARGE



- City Councilmember At-Large
- Elected to City Council in November 2019
- The youngest African American woman ever elected to Philadelphia City Council
- Former Chief of Staff to former Councilmember Blondell Reynolds Brown
- Lifelong Philadelphian and graduate of the Philadelphia High School for Girls and West Chester University
- Wife and working mom of 3 children #momsgethejobdone
- I am a proud life member of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Incorporated, Inc.

PRIORITIES RELATED TO MENTAL HEALTH

- Conflict Resolution
- Processing Grief
- Mental Health for our Children
- Financial and Work-related Mental Health
- Recovery from the Covid-19 Pandemic



RESOLUTION NO. 200430

- In September 2020 I passed a resolution authorizing the Committee on Education to conduct hearings exploring the benefits of the School District of Philadelphia mandating conflict resolution training at all curriculum levels.
- Conflict resolution training seeks to create opportunities for students and other school community members to recognize that conflict is a natural part of life and can be resolved peacefully.



CONFLICT RESOLUTION: TAKING AN EVIDENCE-BASED APPROACH



Katherine
Gilmore Richardson
COUNCILMEMBER AT-LARGE



CONFLICT RESOLUTION: TAKING AN EVIDENCE-BASED APPROACH

Report of Philadelphia City Council's
Committee on Education

Chair: Honorable Maria D. Quiñones Sánchez

Resolution Sponsor: Honorable Katherine Gilmore Richardson

Pursuant to Resolution No. 200430

In April 2021, I released a report summarizing the findings from the November 2020 Committee on Education hearing on Resolution No. 200430.

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HEARING RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendations for the School District of Philadelphia

1. The School District of Philadelphia should take a trauma-informed, evidence-based approach to providing conflict resolution to all students.

The evidence is clear, conflict resolution training must be mandated district wide and more mental health resources must be provided in all schools to reduce gun violence and prepare students for the future.

Dr. Gray: ...[T]he research is clearer and clearer. We know that this is the direction that we need to go. There's not a choice. We have to go toward restorative ways of interacting with kids in schools. So I think the commitment is really significant at this time.

Dr. Abigail Gray: Transcript p. 148.

Dr. Reeves: We worked together, City and University; we studied Philadelphia Cure Violence in the 22nd police district. We saw 2.5 fewer shootings per 10,000 people per month in Cure Violence sites compared to areas without Cure Violence. The key to this program is conflict resolution. Our outreach workers are trained in conflict resolution to de-escalate high risk situations. This takes the power away from the contagion and treats the disease. Like we have done together in the past, we need to implement evidence-based programs that work. And like any good health related intervention, we must implement the program with fidelity. We must implement what was studied if we hope to see the same result. We can't change the scope of the program and claim that it is the same program that was studied.

Dr. Reeves: Transcript pgs. 204-205

Dr. Reeves advocates for Cure Violence, which has a proven track record that resulted in significant improvements in instances of gun violence. By meeting with teachers, parents, students, and experts, many of whom spoke at the hearing, to coordinate a structural change to mandate conflict resolution training and provide schools with more mental health professionals, the District can build on the programs it already developed and equip its students with the tools they need to be successful.

CONFLICT RESOLUTION: TAKING AN EVIDENCE-BASED APPROACH

Recommendations for the Administration

1. Gun violence should be declared a public health emergency

On September 17th, City Council passed a resolution urging Mayor Kenney to declare an emergency and dedicate all available resources to addressing gun violence. The Mayor has not yet declared an emergency. Since that resolution, 1,010 more Philadelphians have been shot and more than 232 have died, including 18 children under the age of 18.¹ The Administration must act immediately and determine what efforts are going into ending gun violence and whether those efforts are successful and effective. The Administration must also utilize every department and agency to advance the common goal of ending gun violence.

2. The Administration and SDP officials should collaborate to ensure conflict resolution training are mandated and more mental health resources are provided in all schools.

The Administration can assist SDP in mandating conflict resolution and better allocate resources and funding. City agencies, offices, and departments, such as the Office of Violence Prevention, the Office of Human Resources, the Commerce Department and its Workforce Development unit, the Department of Health, and the Department of Behavioral Health and Disability Services all must begin taking an active role in gun violence prevention and intervention. Many city offices and departments should be concerned about whether students are being properly prepared for the future. If students cannot resolve conflicts peacefully or cannot cope with trauma effectively, then an unacceptable number of Philadelphians will continue to be lost to gun violence and our City will struggle to compete with our peers.

Recommendations for City Council

1. City Council should use the budget process to provide targeted, additional resources.

City Council can look at all ways to direct funding to SDP to support district-wide conflict resolution programming and mental health resources. While departments have significant leeway over how they spend their budgets, City Council appropriates funds with the hopes of achieving specific outcomes. City Council can work with SDP leadership to determine where resources need to be directed to ensure these goals are carried out.

¹ Office of the Comptroller, "Measuring Philadelphia's Gun Violence Crisis," Accessed on April 3, 2021, <https://comptroller.phila.gov/sites/default/files/2021-04/measuring-gun-violence-04-2021>.

- The main recommendation was for the School District of Philadelphia to offer conflict resolution training to all students to help reduce gun violence and the number of conflicts amongst young people.
- They announced they would offer trauma-informed, evidence-based conflict resolution training at the Tier 1 level that is culturally competent and developed in collaboration with school staff and teachers next school year.

ANNUAL MANAGING GRIEF & LOSS DURING THE HOLIDAYS EVENT



KATHERINE GILMORE RICHARDSON
COUNCILMEMBER AT-LARGE



An annual event in collaboration with the Department of Behavioral Health and Disability Services, and the Uplift Center for Grieving Children.

MANAGING GRIEF & LOSS DURING THE HOLIDAYS

Wednesday, December 22nd, 2021
5:30 PM – 6:00 PM

Join Councilmember Gilmore Richardson, The Department of Behavioral Health and Intellectual Disability Services, and Uplift Center for Grieving Children for a skills session on managing grief and loss during the Holidays.

To register visit bit.ly/KGRManagingGrief2021



Malik Gray



Andrea October, MSS



Kevin Carter, MSW



COMMUNITY EVENING RESOURCE CENTERS

- In June 2021, I introduced legislation to simplify the minor curfew law by making the times easier to understand.
- I also worked closely with the Administration to establish evening resource centers and safe spaces where minors who violate curfew can be taken to be connected to support services.
- I am currently in the process of updating the minor curfew law for summer 2022.

Community Evening Resource Centers

OPEN DAILY
7:00 PM TO 2:00 AM

Community Resource Centers' Locations:

SOUTH DIVISION:

Diversified Community Services, Inc.
(Dixon House)

1920 S. 20th Street
215-336-3511
erichardson@dcsphila.org

SOUTHWEST DIVISION:

Community of Compassion, Inc.

6150 Cedar Avenue
215-239-6820
compassioncdcphilly@gmail.com

All Philadelphia Youth Welcome!

- Empower yourself
- Engage in family programming
- Receive mentorship and support
- Get connected to resources to increase your quality of life

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Evening Curfew Times



MIDNIGHT

Minors 16 yrs & older



10:00 PM

Minors 14 - 15 yrs



9:30 PM

Minors 13 yrs & under



COMMUNITY EVENING RESOURCE CENTERS

- These are safe spaces open EVERY DAY from 7:00 PM to 2:00 AM.
- They offer various programs such as tutoring, conflict resolution, mentorship, mental health awareness training, and skills building.
- They also offer various activities such as cooking classes, video gaming, photography, family game nights, yoga, basketball, and more.

Parents are also encouraged to participate in family nights, financial literacy classes, courses on mental wellbeing, and more.

ANNUAL APPRENTICESHIP GUIDEBOOK

 **Katherine**
Gilmore Richardson
COUNCILMEMBER AT-LARGE



Photo credit: Anthony Casanova/Philadelphia.gov

Home of Laborers' District Council Training and Learning Center Samuel Staten, Jr. Building

CITY OF PHILADELPHIA
2022 APPRENTICESHIP
GUIDEBOOK

Scan code for
updated information



- Studies have shown that symptoms of depression and anxiety were significantly greater in the unemployed.
- My Apprenticeship Guidebooks are “one-stop shops” for residents actively seeking employment in the trades.
- Has over 25 pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship programs for the City of Philadelphia.
- It creates pathways for Philadelphians to find family-sustaining jobs that offer competitive pay and benefits, all of which can negatively impact our mental health if they are lacking or non-existent.

“ILLUMINATE THE ARTS GRANT”



- I worked with my colleague Councilmember Isaiah Thomas (At-Large) to create the “Illuminate the Arts” \$1 MIL grant as part of City Council’s New Normal Budget Act.
- \$3.25 Million was then invested in the local arts and culture community. This funding was a combination of an allocation from the New Normal Budget Act and additional advocacy.

“ILLUMINATE THE ARTS GRANT”

- The declining mental health of Philadelphia’s art and culture community left them a part of the silent victims of the Covid-19 pandemic.
- This funding allows us to better support individuals and small organizations who give back to their communities and our young people by providing them with the arts and cultural experiences and programming they typically are not able to receive.



THE FUTURE

Just accepted applications
for the 2022
“Illuminate the Arts Grant”

In the process of opening
two more Community
Evening Resource Centers
in the Central Division and
the Northwest Division of
the City

2023 Apprenticeship
Guidebook

Working with my colleagues
to advocate for the mental
health wellbeing of our
constituents

THANK YOU SO MUCH



@CouncilwomanKGR



@CouncilmemberKGR

<https://phlcouncil.com/katherinegilmorerichardson/>

Keep up with my work by
following me on social media

