

## **MAYOR'S FUND TO ADVANCE NEW YORK CITY**

### **MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS: MINUTES**

June 11, 2020

#### **Directors in attendance:**

- Alexis Blane
- Matthew Klein
- Chirlane McCray
- J. Phillip Thompson

#### **Officers in attendance:**

- Matt Everett, Secretary
- Maya Jakubowicz, Treasurer
- Toya Williford, Executive Director

#### **Other participants**

- Danicle Baierlein, Director of Development
- Chris Kelsaw, Director of Finance and Administration
- Jorge Luis PaniaguaValle, Chief of Staff
- Leah Prestamo, Counsel and Director of Programs and Policy

The Board Chair, First Lady Chirlane McCray, opened the meeting at 2:04 PM by noting the unusual nature of the virtual meeting and acknowledging the \$40 million the Fund raised in support of COVID-19 relief to support healthcare workers and immigrant communities. The First Lady thanked the Fund for their work helping to save New York City.

The First Lady then turned the agenda over to the Executive Director, Toya Williford.

Ms. Williford asked for a motion to approve the meetings from the February 27, 2020 meeting. Mr. Klein moved to approve the minutes. Ms. Blane seconded. The motion was approved.

Ms. Williford noted that in three months, the COVID-19 Emergency Relief Fund has raised over \$40 million from over 9,200 donors and she then introduced five resolutions related to the Emergency Relief Fund.

Ms. Williford introduced Resolution One to approve the Sanctuary for Families contract providing 200 microgrants to survivors of domestic violence at approximately \$1,500 each. Mr. Thompson moved to approve the motion. The First Lady seconded. The motion was approved and Resolution One was adopted.

Ms. Williford then moved to resolutions to approve contracts for the COVID-19 Immigrant Emergency Relief Program, funded by a \$20 million grant from the Open Society Foundations to provide support via 34 partner organizations to approximately 20,000 families affected by the pandemic and excluded from existing state and federal relief programs.

Ms. Williford introduced Resolution Two to approve the Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New York contract as part of the Immigrant Emergency Relief Program. Ms. Blane asked who would be eligible to receive supports from the Program. Ms. Williford replied that the Program is targeted at individuals

particularly affected by the pandemic and ineligible for other state and federal programs. She noted that the partner organizations would screen applicants and once it was determined that they are ineligible for other programs, they would be directed to the Immigrant Emergency Relief Program. Ms. Blane moved to approve the motion. Mr. Klein seconded. The motion was approved and Resolution Two was adopted.

Ms. Williford introduced Resolution Three to approve the Center for Family Life/SCO Family of Services contract as part of the Immigrant Emergency Relief Program. The First Lady moved to approve the motion. Mr. Klein seconded. The motion was approved and Resolution Three was adopted.

Ms. Williford introduced Resolution Four to approve the Make the Road New York contract as part of the Immigrant Emergency Relief Program. Mr. Thompson moved to approve the motion. Mr. Klein seconded. The motion was approved and Resolution Four was adopted.

Ms. Williford then introduced Resolution Five, a contract with Usio Payment Solutions for handling payment processes as part of the Immigrant Emergency Relief Program for the 31 CBO partners not covered by the previous three resolutions. Ms. Blane asked to confirm that the cost of the contract would be used to cover the direct payments to Program participants, with a small amount being retained by Usio to cover their processing costs. Ms. Williford confirmed this and added that partner organizations would be communicating directly with Usio, so the City would not be retaining participant names. Mr. Klein commented that Usio has been a thoughtful partner in structuring the agreement. Ms. Williford echoed this and thanked Usio for their partnership. The First Lady moved to approve the motion. Mr. Klein and Ms. Blane seconded. The motion was approved and Resolution Five was adopted.

Mr. Klein then acknowledged that the grants approved in the previous resolutions put the Mayor's Fund and the City on the front lines of the approach of providing direct cash assistance to populations they serve.

Ms. Williford then shared the Executive Director's Report. She noted that the Fiscal Year began in a different place than it was ending. She noted the Fund began the year with the goal of telling more stories and nurturing a talented and diverse staff while raising private dollars to support public service programs and found itself ending the year responding to a global pandemic and the international demand to value and protect the lives of Black people. She thanked the board for its work as the Fund pivoted to relief efforts.

Ms. Williford noted that prior to COVID-19, the programs team launched 13 new programs, she and the development team met with nearly 2/3 of the board of advisors and raised \$2.8 million, and the communications team issued an annual report and launched a bi-monthly newsletter.

Ms. Williford noted that when the COVID-19 Emergency Relief Fund was launched it was to provide resources and support to health care workers and essential staff; local small businesses; displaced hourly workers, including immigrant workers; and children, youth, and vulnerable New Yorkers. She noted that the \$40 million raised have met these needs and are serving these populations.

Ms. Williford then shared several programs that the Fund has been able to launch in recent months, including NYC Healthcare Heroes, which has provided 228,000 bags of food and personal care products to 64 healthcare facilities; raised \$20 million from the Open Society Foundations for immigrant families; provided 90,000 meals through the Food for Heroes program, with plans to expand to DSNY facilities and nursing homes; launched a burial assistance program for immigrant families; launched the Small Business Emergency Grant Fund for businesses damaged by public demonstrations; and began ongoing work on a replacement program for the Summer Youth Employment Program.

Ms. Williford then noted the First Lady's work with the Task Force and the Fund's 1.4 million investment in the Restaurant Revitalization Program. Mr. Klein noted that NYC Opportunity was thrilled to be a part of the Program.

Ms. Williford then noted that the Fund had elevated its communications and storytelling in the past year, including engaging with Trevor Noah to raise funds via the "Daily Show" and other partnerships with John Starks, Glenn Close, Donna Karan, Jason Mraz, David Guetta, "Sing Street," and others to raise funds and awareness.

She noted that the Fund is on track to raise \$64.8 million this fiscal year, including COVID-19 relief.

Ms. Williford then commended Leah Prestamo and Chris Kelsaw and their teams for pulling together contracts and tracking payments during the busier time.

Ms. Williford then noted several promotions among Fund staff: Jorge Luis PaniaguaValle has been promoted to Deputy Executive Director; Daniele Baierlein, Director of Development, was also made Senior Advisor; and Leah Prestamo, Director of Programs and Policy, was also made Counsel.

Ms. Williford then asked for questions and new business. Hearing none, she announced that the next board meeting would take place in October.

The First Lady offered a motion to adjourn. Mr. Klein seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 2:42 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matt Everett", written in a cursive style.

Matt Everett  
Board Secretary