

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, ACCEPTING THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE FINANCE AND ECONOMIC RESILIENCY COMMITTEE, AT ITS JUNE 11, 2025 MEETING, TO CONSIDER AS PART OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2026 BUDGET PROCESS, A BUDGET ENHANCEMENT OF APPROXIMATELY \$100,000 FOR ADDITIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS AND A MODIFICATION TO THE EARLY CHILD CARE PREKINDERGARTEN PROGRAM FOR MIAMI BEACH RESIDENTS COMMENCING IN SCHOOL YEAR 2026-2027 BY: (i) ALLOCATING THE SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS, IN THE AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$440,000.00 TO SERVE UP TO 220 ELIGIBLE FOUR-YEAR-OLD MIAMI BEACH CHILDREN ENROLLING IN PREKINDERGARTEN 4 CLASSES WITH A SCHOLARSHIP AMOUNT OF UP TO \$2,000; (ii) REALLOCATING THE REMAINING PROGRAM FUNDS, IN THE AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$220,000.00 TO SERVE UP TO 220 ELIGIBLE THREE-YEAR-OLD MIAMI BEACH RESIDENT CHILDREN WITH A SCHOLARSHIP AMOUNT OF UP TO \$1,000; AND FURTHER, AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER OR HIS/HER DESIGNEE TO EXECUTE ANY REQUIRED AGREEMENTS OR DOCUMENTS TO IMPLEMENT THE PROGRAM.

WHEREAS, at the January 15, 2020 City Commission meeting, a referral was made to the Finance and Economic Resiliency Committee ("FERC") to discuss the funding of an Early Childcare Pilot Program; and

WHEREAS, at its July 17, 2020 meeting, FERC recommended to fund an Early Childcare Pilot Program for implementation in the 2021-2022 school year, with funding in the amount of \$250,000 to be appropriated from Fiscal Year 2022 funds; and

WHEREAS, the details of FERC's recommendation for the Early Childcare Pilot Program are outlined as follows:

1. Eligibility requirements for all Miami Beach child applicants and Miami Beach partner childcare providers:
 - a. Child must be 4 years old on or before September 1 of enrollment school year to enroll;
 - b. Child's parent/legal guardian must be a resident of the City of Miami Beach upon submission of application and throughout the year of Program participation 2021-2022;
2. Eligibility requirements for all partner childcare providers: Early childcare center must meet Florida Statutes applicable sections to be eligible to offer prekindergarten as a public-school provider, nonpublic school provider or faith-based provider.

1. Be licensed as a childcare facility under s.402.305, F.S., family day care home under s.402.313, F.S., or large family childcare facility under s.402.313, F.S.; or
2. Be licensed exempt under s.402. 3025(2), F.S. (nonpublic schools) or s.402.316, F.S. (for faith- based providers), and
 - a. Hold a Gold Seal Quality Care designation under s.402.281, F.S.;
 - b. Each agency must apply for Gold Seal with Department of Children and Families or be accredited by an accrediting association that is a member of:
 - i. National Council for Private School Accreditation
 - ii. The Florida Association of Academic Nonpublic Schools; and

3. The requested funding for the prekindergarten stipend, in the amount of \$250,000 was contemplated to be distributed as follows: \$250,000 would be available to eligible applicants and equally apportioned amongst eligible children in an amount not to exceed \$2,700 per child, for maximum hourly rate of \$6.00 per hour, up to 2.5 hours for 180 days; and

WHEREAS, on July 29, 2020, the Mayor and City Commission adopted Resolution No. 2020-31375, authorizing a Prekindergarten Pilot Program for the 2021-22 school year; and

WHEREAS, on January 5, 2021, the City conducted a computerized lottery to determine the order in which applicants would be screened to determine eligibility based on residency status of the primary parent/guardian and age of the applicant child; and

WHEREAS, as of May 3, 2021, agreements had been executed with fifteen (15) Prekindergarten providers to partner with the City to expand PreK access to Miami Beach families during the 2021-22 school year; and

WHEREAS, as of May 3, 2021, 104 prekindergarten applicants had been cleared to participate in the Program; seventeen (17) applicants had opted out or were not participating for various reasons including their preferred school was not a partner provider, their child was not age eligible, or their selected public school did not require a parental fee contribution; the remaining 87 applicants had been cleared to participate with 76 having signed confirmatory letters of participation; and the remaining eleven (11) were still pending Prekindergarten provider selection due to their child's wait list status at their preferred school or other reasons; and

WHEREAS, at the March 17, 2021 City Commission meeting, a referral was made to the FERC to discuss the extension of the funding for the Early Childcare Prekindergarten Pilot Program to the 2022-23 School Year; and

WHEREAS, on April 30, 2021, FERC members voted unanimously to support the extension of the City's Prekindergarten Program for the 2022-23 School Year, at an amount of \$250,000, for approximately 92 Miami Beach youth, at \$2,700 per child for 180

days of service, at \$6.00 per hour for an additional 2.5 hours a day; and further authorized the appropriation of funding for the Program in Fiscal Year 2023; and

WHEREAS, the Administration authorized \$41,400 from Fiscal Year 2022 to cover Program services for the months of August and September 2022; and

WHEREAS, at the April 30, 2021 meeting, the City Commission adopted Resolution No. 2021- 31935, authorizing the City Manager to extend the Early Childcare Prekindergarten Program for Miami Beach residents, in an amount not to exceed \$250,000 ("Program Funds"), for the 2022-2023 school year; and authorized the appropriation of the Program Funds from the City's budget for Fiscal Year 2023; and

WHEREAS, at the May 12, 2021, Commission meeting the City Commission passed and adopted Resolution No. 2021-31712 to extend the early childcare Prekindergarten Program for Miami Beach residents, in an amount not to exceed \$250,000 (program funds), for the 2022-2023 School Year; and

WHEREAS, at the December 8, 2021, Commission meeting the City Commission adopted Resolution No. 2021-31962 to increase funding for the program, in an amount not to exceed \$475,000, annually, with \$3,000 per child commencing as of the 2023- 2024 School Year; and

WHEREAS, at the December 13, 2023, Commission meeting, the City Commission adopted an amendment to Resolution No. 2021-31962 to increase the number of Pre-K Scholarships from 158 to 177 for School Year 2024-2025, with funding of \$10,000 from Fiscal Year 2024 and \$50,000 as an approved enhancement from Fiscal Year 2025, for \$3,000 per Pre- K scholarship; and increase the number of Pre-K scholarships to 177 each year thereafter with an increase of \$57,000 annually to the program beginning in Fiscal Year 2025; and

WHEREAS, a computerized lottery was held on December 6, 2024, to place all resident applicants in a numerical order for scholarship receipt, with 220 Miami Beach residents assigned lottery numbers for the 2025-26 PreK Scholarship, of which 192 would receive up to \$3,000; and

WHEREAS, out of 192 families who won the lottery, one winning family declined its participation, and one applicant family from the 28 waitlisted families was accepted into the Program, with 27 applicants remaining on the waitlist; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Commission increased the available budget in the amount of \$81,000 for Fiscal Year 2025 to allow the 27 waitlisted families to receive up to \$3,000 in scholarship funds for the School Year 2025-26; and

WHEREAS, at the February 3, 2025 Commission meeting, the Mayor and City Commission adopted Resolution No. 2025-33480, increasing the number of available Prekindergarten Scholarships from 192 to 225 for future school years, effective in Fiscal

Year 2026, representing an additional increase to the budget in the amount of \$99,000 to meet the demonstrated demand and need from the City's residents; and

WHEREAS, at the February 26, 2025 Commission meeting, a referral to FERC was made to consider expanding the City's Prekindergarten Scholarship Program to include options for three-year-old students; and

WHEREAS, at the June 11, 2025 Finance and Economic Resiliency Meeting, a recommendation was made to modify the early childcare pre-kindergarten scholarship program for Miami Beach residents commencing in School Year 2026-27 to (i) allocate scholarship funds in an amount not to exceed \$440,000 to serve up to 220 eligible four-year-old Miami Beach children enrolling in prekindergarten 4 classes with a scholarship amount of up to \$2,000; (ii) reallocate the remaining program funds, in the amount not to exceed \$220,000 to serve up to 220 eligible three-year-old Miami Beach Resident children with a scholarship amount of up to \$1,000; and further, recommending a budget enhancement, of approximately \$100,000 for scholarships, to be considered as part of the FY 2026 budget process; and

WHEREAS, the details of FERC's recommendation for the Prekindergarten 4 Scholarship Program and three (3) year old scholarship program are outlined as follows:

1. Eligibility requirements for all Miami Beach child applicants and Miami Beach partner childcare providers:
 - a. Child must be 4 years old on or before September 1 of enrollment school year to enroll in the City's Prekindergarten 4 Scholarship program.
 - b. Child must be three years old on or before September 1 of enrollment school year to enroll in the City's 3-year-old Scholarship Program.
 - c. Child's parent/legal guardian must be a resident of the City of Miami Beach upon submission of application and throughout the year of Program participation.
 - d. Child may receive a scholarship once for the 3-year-old Scholarship Program of up to \$1,000 and once for the Prekindergarten 4 Scholarship Program of up to \$2,000.
2. Eligibility requirements for all partner childcare providers: Early childcare center must meet Florida Statutes applicable sections to be eligible to offer prekindergarten as a public-school provider, nonpublic school provider or faith-based provider.
 1. Be licensed as a childcare facility under s.402.305, F.S., family day care home under s.402.313, F.S., or large family childcare facility under s.402.313, F.S.; or
 2. Be licensed exempt under s.402. 3025(2), F.S. (nonpublic schools) or s.402.316, F.S. (for faith-based providers), and
 - a. Hold a Gold Seal Quality Care designation under s.402.281, F.S.;
 - b. Each agency must apply for Gold Seal with Department of Children and Families or be accredited by an accrediting association that is a member of:
 - i. National Council for Private School Accreditation

ii. The Florida Association of Academic Nonpublic Schools; and

3. The requested funding for the prekindergarten 4 scholarship, in the amount of \$440,000, was contemplated to be distributed as follows: \$440,000 would be available to eligible applicants and equally apportioned amongst eligible children in an amount not to exceed \$2,000 per child, for maximum hourly rate of \$4.44 per hour, up to 2.5 hours for 180 days; and
4. The requested funding for the three-year-old scholarship in the amount of \$220,000 was contemplated to be distributed as follows: \$220,000 would be available to eligible applicants and equally apportioned amongst eligible children in an amount not to exceed \$1,000 per child, for maximum hourly rate of \$2.22 per hour, up to 2.5 hours for 180 days.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT DULY RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, that the Mayor and City Commission accept the recommendation of the Finance and Economic Resiliency Committee, at its June 11, 2025 meeting, to consider as part of the Fiscal Year 2026 budget process, a budget enhancement of approximately \$100,000 for additional scholarships and a modification to the Early Child Care Prekindergarten Program for Miami Beach residents commencing in School Year 2026-2027 by: (i) allocating the scholarship funds, in the amount not to exceed \$440,000.00 to serve up to 220 eligible four-year-old Miami Beach children enrolling in Prekindergarten 4 classes with a scholarship amount of up to \$2,000; (ii) reallocating the remaining Program funds, in the amount not to exceed \$220,000.00 to serve up to 220 eligible three-year-old Miami Beach resident children with a scholarship amount of up to \$1,000; and further, authorize the City Manager or his/her designee to execute any required agreements or documents to implement the Program.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this ____ day of June, 2025.

ATTEST:

Steven Meiner, Mayor

Rafael E. Granado, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO
FORM & LANGUAGE
& FOR EXECUTION

Nicholas 6/18/25
for City Attorney Date