

RESOLUTION NUMBER R- **296638**

ADOPTED ON JUN 10 2002

WHEREAS, the Consensus Organizing Center, within the college of Health and Human Services at San Diego State University's School of Social Work, seeks to educate and train inner-city high school students to be community builders and advocates for human services and social change; and

WHEREAS, the Consensus Organizing Center, with funding from the Alliance Healthcare Foundation, has initiated a pilot program called the Step-Up Program; and

WHEREAS, the Step-Up Program's mission is to recruit, educate and empower high school students from inner-city schools in San Diego and to develop a talent pipeline of indigenous community organizers who are trained in practical skills to solve real health and social problems in low-income neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, Step-Up is a multi-year program that begins with students who are in their junior year of high school and works with them throughout their educational careers; and

WHEREAS, the Step-Up Program consists of students completing 40 hours of community service as well as an Introduction to Social Work class, while receiving three units of college credit; and

WHEREAS, the Step-Up Program, launched at Hoover High School in City Heights, started in the Spring of 2000 with 17 students, all of whom completed the course and are currently enrolled in college, including eight at San Diego State University, and 25 of 26 students who have completed the program to date have enrolled in college; and

WHEREAS, in 2000, the Hoover students did their community project at Rosa Parks Elementary School, critiquing a number of programs within the school, interviewing teachers, administrators, parents as well as students, and made a series of practical proposals to improve the school; and

WHEREAS, between September 2001 and December 2003, the Step-Up Program will seek to recruit approximately 90 to 120 students from three San Diego high schools to enroll in the San Diego State University Introduction to Social Work course; and

WHEREAS, the Consensus Organizing Center's Step-Up Program is a long-term process that helps both students and communities, and which shows, if given an opportunity to earn a college degree, students are ready to succeed; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the City of San Diego, that this Council, for and on behalf of the citizens of San Diego, commends San Diego State University's Consensus Organizing Center/Step-Up Program for its mission to recruit, educate and empower high school students from inner-city schools in San Diego to show them how to give back to their communities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Monday, June 10 , 2002, be and is hereby proclaimed to be "**SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY'S CONSENSUS ORGANIZING CENTER/STEP-UP PROGRAM DAY**" in the City of San Diego.

APPROVED: CASEY GWINN, City Attorney

By Stuart H. Swett
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Senior Deputy City Attorney

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