

32

RESOLUTION NUMBER R- 304085

DATE OF FINAL PASSAGE SEP 16 2008

WHEREAS, the Big Sister League was established in 1942 to serve the needs of women and children unable to find suitable housing in San Diego, after traveling here to find their spouses had already been sent to war, leaving the women and children homeless; and

WHEREAS, in response to a local law stating that any woman without housing and on the street after 10 p.m. would be taken to jail and separated from her children, Frances Woods and a small group of downtown professional women organized the Big Sister League to shelter and nurture these women and their children; and

WHEREAS, nightly, Frances Woods and her group of women arrived at the jail to advocate on behalf of the homeless women and were able to provide these women with a safe and comfortable place to stay; and

WHEREAS, due to the hard work of caring women, the Big Sister League, an independent local charitable organization, became a non-profit corporation in 1942; and

WHEREAS, since 1942, the Big Sister League has continued to grow and now operates two homes, providing women with housing, counseling and social services; and

WHEREAS, in 1978, the Big Sister League created the Big Sister/Little Sister Mentor Program in response to a growing at-risk group of young girls in the community, which partners girls between the ages of six and sixteen with older women who serve as mentors and positive role models; and

WHEREAS, the Mentor Program matches girls with qualified women in their communities that have been pre-screened and trained to become Big Sisters; the program typically serves 150 to 176 women and girls annually and is staffed by a program director and interns from local universities; and

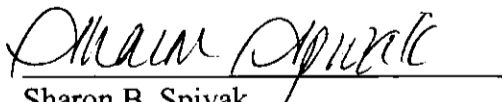
WHEREAS, the Big Sister League assists girls and women in San Diego County by providing supervised transitional housing, volunteer mentor relationships and support services that are designed to encourage confidence, self-esteem and independence; and

WHEREAS, most residents of the Big Sister League stay between six months and a year before transitioning into independent living; through the years, this program has become a primary housing resource for many mentally ill and/or abused women in San Diego County;
NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the City of San Diego, that this Council, for and on behalf of the people of San Diego, does hereby commend and thank the Big Sister League for the difference it has made in the lives of many women in San Diego and congratulates it on 66 years of success and the 30th anniversary of its Mentor Program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that September 9, 2008 be, and is hereby proclaimed to be, "**BIG SISTER LEAGUE DAY**" in the City of San Diego.

APPROVED: MICHAEL J. AGUIRRE, City Attorney

By 
Sharon B. Spivak
Deputy City Attorney

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(R-2008-1065)

SBS:als
05/14/08
Or.Dept:Council-Atkins
R-2008-1065

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was passed by the Council of the City of San Diego, at this meeting of SEP - 9 2008.

ELIZABETH S. MALAND
City Clerk

By 
Deputy City Clerk

Approved: 9.16.08
(date)


JERRY SANDERS, Mayor

Vetoed: _____
(date)

JERRY SANDERS, Mayor

08 SEP 2008

R 304085