

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Dr. Ray Allen Berryhill has served as Senior Pastor of Resurrected Life Church International (formerly Evangel World Outreach Center) in Chicago, Illinois, since December 1992; and

WHEREAS, Under Dr. Berryhill's leadership, God has blessed this church to grow from under 100 members to well over 1,100 members, representing more than 40 nationalities of the world, showing the church's commitment to passionately making disciples of all nations; and

WHEREAS, In October of 2014, Evangel World Outreach Center and Bethesda Pentecostal Church merged to become Resurrected Life Church International, a multi-ethnic, multi-cultural, multi-lingual congregation presenting the gospel of Jesus Christ in English and Spanish; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Berryhill is committed to community development and community outreach, impacting tens of thousands through community festivals, turkey give-a-ways, Thanksgiving Day outreach, Chicago's largest Easter egg hunt, and 40 Days of Blessing, where for 40 days, random recipients are awarded groceries, free meals, oil changes, gasoline, utility, paid vacations to Disney World, mortgage payments, and automobiles; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Berryhill was the first to sponsor – and has gone on to become a four-time sponsored of – the Convoy of Hope in the State of Illinois which provides groceries, health care, and a job fair for more than 30,000 needy residents; and

WHEREAS, Following the devastation of Hurricane Maria to the island of Puerto Rico, Dr. Berryhill organized a coalition of Latino pastors, activists and elected officials to decry the slow movement of federal relief efforts, which led to the packing and shipping of 150,000 lbs. of food, water, and medical supplies to the devastated island; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Berryhill also served as the liaison in coordinating with over 30 churches and elected officials of Puerto Rico, including the Mayor of San Juan and the Governor of Puerto Rico, in conjunction with Rev. Jesse Jackson, to distribute supplies to the hardest hit areas and to assess the areas of devastation; and

WHEREAS, In October 2017, Dr. Berryhill and the church chartered a cargo ship containing 40,000 lbs. of food and water arriving to the port of San Juan which was distributed to the towns of Bayamon, Morovis, Orocovis and Corozal via Iglesia Marasul; and

WHEREAS, Prior to his pastoring, he founded Ray Berryhill and Company where he and fellow recording artists who traveled throughout the Midwest in the early 80's and 90's; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Berryhill also led his church choir, the Evangel Celebration Choir, to win the Chicago Regional Choir Competition of Verizon Wireless' "How Sweet the Sound" to a crowd of 11,000 at the United Center, taking home top honors as the region's Best Overall Choir, Best Large Choir, and People's Choice; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Berryhill recorded and produced the single "Go Tell It On the Mountain" which charted at #9 on Billboard in the holiday category; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Berryhill is passionate about maintaining the legacy of Chicago as the Gospel Music capital of the world, honoring such legendary artists including Albertina Walker, Inez Andrews, DeLois Barrett Campbell, Jesse Dixon, Professor Robert Wooten, Father Charles G. Hayes, and a host of others; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Berryhill has the true heart of a pastor by preparing believers for salvation, healing, and deliverance through the spoken word and the power of the Holy Spirit; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, That we, the Mayor and the Members of the City Council of the City of Chicago, assembled here this thirteenth day of September, 2023, recognize October 11, 2023, as Dr. Ray Allen Berryhill Day in recognition of his leadership, and his contributions to the City and those around the world; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to Dr. Ray Allen Berryhill.



FELIX CARDONA, JR.
Alderman, 31st Ward