

RESOLUTION 197
MALIK AHMED

WHEREAS, Malik Ahmed is the Founder and Chief Executive Officer of Better Family Life, Inc. (BFL), a non-profit 501(c)3 community development corporation that tackles social and economic problems in the community from a holistic approach. Under his leadership, BFL established five core pillars of development: Community Outreach, Cultural Arts, Housing and Asset Development, Workforce Development, and Youth, Family and Clinical Services. BFL has an expanded customer reach to more than 50,000 annually. Under his direction, Better Family Life recently opened Better Family Life Cultural, Educational and Business Center (former Ralph Waldo Emerson Elementary School), located at 5415 Page Blvd; and

WHEREAS, for more than 40 years, Ahmed has spearheaded impactful community development initiatives around the United States and in Africa. According to Ahmed, his avocation is working to uplift African Americans who are unemployed, underemployed and skill deficient, while simultaneously bridging gaps along class, racial and cultural lines. As a Peace Corps volunteer in the 1970's, Mr. Ahmed worked three years as an urban planner in the West African country of Mali, where he developed a cost-effective sanitation program for the capital city of Bamako; and

WHEREAS, in 2008, as the economy spiraled downward, Ahmed partnered with the City of St. Louis and other notable community development corporation CEOs to form the St. Louis Alliance for the Preservation of Homeownership. Through this partnership, homeowners were provided foreclosure crisis intervention and direct financial assistance; and

WHEREAS, Malik Ahmed is an honored recipient of the St. Louis University and Urban League Dr. Martin Luther King Awards Program for 2018.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we pause in our deliberations to recognize the achievements of Malik Ahmed and we direct the Clerk of this Board to spread a copy of this Resolution across the minutes of these proceedings and to prepare a commemorative copy to the end that it may be presented at a time and place deemed appropriate by the Sponsor.

Introduced this 12th day of January, 2018 by:

The Honorable Marlene E. Davis, Alderwoman 19th Ward

Adopted this 12th day of January, 2018 as attested by:

Donna Elliot
Assistant Clerk, Board of Aldermen

Lewis E. Reed
President, Board of Aldermen