

**Resolution Number 175**

**WILLIAM SIEDHOFF**

**WHEREAS**, WILLIAM SIEDHOFF has had an extensive career in the private sector and at the State and local levels of government in service to children and families; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1967 he became known as the welfare man with the orange folders, serving families in the Pruitt-Igoe Housing Project to determine eligibility for what was then known as Aid for Families with Dependent Children; ever since then he has maintained a personal touch, spending nearly 51 nights visiting the City of St. Louis overflow shelter during last year's extreme cold weather and personally checking on the welfare of homeless individuals in all sorts of weather; and

**WHEREAS**, WILLIAM SIEDHOFF since 2001 has been in Mayor Slay's Cabinet as the Director of Human Services, which includes Homeless Services, Office on the Disabled, St. Louis Area Agency on Aging, Veteran's Services, and Youth & Family Services -- serving for 13 years; and

**WHEREAS**, WILLIAM SIEDHOFF received a B.S. and M.S.W. from Washington University in St. Louis and is a graduate of the Program for Senior Executives in State and Local Government at the John F. Kennedy School, Harvard University -- and by the way is a proud graduate of Cleveland High School; and

**WHEREAS**, WILLIAM SIEDHOFF began his career as a social worker for the Missouri Division of Social Services, then became St. Louis Area Director and finally Statewide Director of the Missouri Division of Family Services from September 1986 to January 1988; Deputy Director of the Missouri Department of Social Services from January 1988 to March 1992; and Director of Missouri Motor Vehicles and Licensing from March 1992 to April 1993; and

**WHEREAS**, WILLIAM SIEDHOFF is a champion of the collaborative model known as the Continuum of Care for the homeless; and

**WHEREAS**, WILLIAM SIEDHOFF serves on over 30 boards and committees as a volunteer and often serves as chair; and

**WHEREAS**, WILLIAM SIEDHOFF is a well grounded and approachable individual, who has received innumerable accolades and recognition for his leadership in such areas as the BEACH Project (rapid re-housing program), prisoner re-entry programs and caring for children, seniors, and veterans -- most recently having a room named after him by the St. Louis Crisis Nursery in honor of all he has done for them; and

**WHEREAS**, it has come to our attention that WILLIAM SIEDHOFF retired on November 26, 2014, to spend more time with his lovely wife, Mary Ellen Cotsworth, and to continue all of his volunteer service without the "distractions" of paid service.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we pause in our deliberations to thank WILLIAM SIEDHOFF for his many years of service to those in greatest need of help in our community. We wish him all good things in his retirement. We further 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 to our honoree at a time and place deemed appropriate by the Sponsor.  
Introduced on the 5th day of December, 2014 by:

**Honorable Craig Schmid, Alderman 20th Ward**

Adopted this the 5th day of December, 2014 as attested by:

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David W. Sweeney  
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

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Lewis E. Reed  
President, Board of Aldermen