



Legislation Text

File #: 0012X-2021, **Version:** 1

To honor and celebrate the legacy of leadership and service of Dr. Kevin Dixon as he retires after 34 years of commitment to the residents of Franklin County and Central Ohio.

WHEREAS, Kevin Dixon, Ph.D., has served the Franklin County community for thirty-four years working in various roles at the Alcohol, Drug and Mental Health Board of Franklin County, also known as ADAMH; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Dixon was responsible for developing community-based initiatives that address a wide-range of behavioral health issues in underserved minority communities; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Dixon's service includes more than two years of service with the Commission on Black Girls where he helped the Commission develop and implement recommendations to ensure opportunities, successful futures, and the achievement of a high quality of life for Black Girls in Columbus; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Dixon's service also includes more than 6 years of service as a member of the PrimaryOne Health Board of directors which is committed to providing access to services that improve the health status of families - including people experiencing financial, social, or cultural barriers to health care; and he served more than two years as the chair of the Board where he recruited a new Chief Executive Officer; expanded health services, locations, revenues of PrimaryOne Health and tremendous growth in new patients;

WHEREAS, Dr. Dixon worked with the new CEO to establish the first Annual Healthcare Justice Award fundraising event to raise awareness, honor individuals who are fighting for healthcare rights, justice and culturally appropriate care; integrated behavioral healthcare services at all PrimaryOne Health sites and expanded the organization's 340B Pharmacy Discount program to assist patients in saving resources and accessing their prescription drugs;

WHEREAS, Dr. Dixon helped to bring Mental Health First Aid training opportunities to Franklin County where community members learned how to identify, understand, and respond to signs of mental illnesses and substance use disorders; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Dixon facilitated the introduction of innovative prevention programs reaching underserved youth through the Youth-Led Prevention program and prevention services in all sixteen public school districts in Franklin County; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Dixon helped to launch the Consumer and Family Advisory Council (CFAC) to ensure that the voices of individuals in recovery and their families are represented in Franklin County's behavioral health system when programs and services are being evaluated and developed; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Dixon developed a network of faith leaders that he relied on to share information about resources and receive information back about community needs - He was also responsible for developing ADAMH's Annual Faith Leaders Symposium where senior faith leaders were invited to hear from thought leaders about behavioral related topics, including their own self-care, and learn more about community behavioral health resources; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Dixon helped to develop outreach programs to serve the New Americans who call Franklin County home, developing trusted relationships with leaders in the Asian, Latino, Somali, and Bhutanese-Nepali communities; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Dixon's commitment to education enabled young and experienced leaders to learn from great scholars about the importance of cultural competence and cultural sensitivity in behavioral health and all areas of service in the community; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Dixon's passion for mentoring young people led to the development of the Black Community Ambassador Support Program that has supported young black leaders in our community; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS:

That this Council does hereby honor and celebrate the legacy of leadership and service of Dr. Kevin Dixon as he retires after 34 years of commitment to the residents of Franklin County and Central Ohio.