

**RESOLUTION NO. 20240502-063**

**WHEREAS**, Council recognizes the significant contributions and sacrifices made by youth who assist in caring for their aging, disabled, or health-challenged family members or guardians (youth caregivers); and

**WHEREAS**, youth caregivers play a crucial role in ensuring the well-being and comfort of aging family members or guardians, often balancing their caregiving responsibilities with school, work, and personal commitments; and

**WHEREAS**, there are approximately 5.5 million children in the United States who provide care for an aging or disabled family member, such as a parent or grandparent; and

**WHEREAS**, research shows that 20 percent of students who drop out of high school do so to care for a disabled family member; and

**WHEREAS**, youth caregivers often provide complex medical and nursing care with little to no training or support services; and

**WHEREAS**, it is important to raise awareness of the contributions of youth caregivers and advocate for policies that recognize and support their vital role in the community; and

**WHEREAS**, supporting youth caregivers not only enhances the quality of life for aging individuals but also fosters intergenerational bonds and strengthens family units; and

**WHEREAS**, Council recognizes the unique challenges faced by youth caregivers and providing them with resources and support systems can alleviate

stress, promote mental health, and facilitate their ability to continue providing care effectively; and

**WHEREAS**, initiatives aimed at assisting youth caregivers can positively impact the broader community by promoting empathy, resilience, and a culture of mutual support; and

**WHEREAS**, Council seeks to effectively address the needs of youth caregivers and their families through collaboration with local organizations; **NOW, THEREFORE,**

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:**

City Council hereby expresses its support for programs and initiatives designed to assist youth caregivers in fulfilling their caregiving responsibilities for their family members and guardians while also maintaining their overall well-being and personal development.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

The City Manager is directed to conduct a study, in coordination and collaboration with local school districts, charter school systems, and other relevant public and private agencies, to determine how many youth 18 years or younger are youth caregivers and serve as the primary caretakers of their family members and guardians; and in this study, the City Manager should gather information regarding the following, as well as other factors that support the spirit of this Resolution:

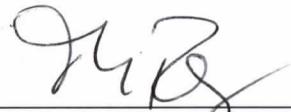
1. Percentage of youth 18 years or younger who serve as the primary caregiver of a family member or guardian;
2. Whether serving as a primary caregiver led to dropping out of school;

3. The type of care provided by the caregiver;
4. The financial constraints faced by youth caregivers; and
5. Relevant demographic data of youth caregivers.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

The City Manager is directed to report back to the Public Health Committee with an update no later than September 12, 2024, and final results of the survey no later than May 2025.

**ADOPTED:** May 2, 2024 **ATTEST:**



Myrna Rios  
City Clerk