

**HEALTH COMMISSION**  
**City and County of San Francisco**  
**Resolution No. 14-09**

**RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE CONARD HOUSE ON ITS 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY**

WHEREAS, an unmet need in 1959 for a transitional residence for people with mental illness returning to San Francisco from the state mental hospital inspired local social worker Elaine Mikels to action, and

WHEREAS, within a year Elaine Mikels had founded Conard House, San Francisco's and California's first mental health "halfway house," which she named after her social work mentor, Conard Rheiner, and

WHEREAS, an unmet need among Conard House graduates for permanent community housing and steady jobs led Elaine's successors to developed cooperative apartments, vocational training programs and other support services in San Francisco, and

WHEREAS, Conard House residential treatment, supportive housing and employment, and money management services have flourished into a strategic integrated approach to helping people self-manage mental illness and other chronic health conditions called Community Supported Self-Management that annually serves over two thousand Conard House clients throughout San Francisco, and


WHEREAS, the Conard House Board of Directors has designated November 5, 2009, as Founders' Day, the first in a series of events in 2009 and 2010 celebrating the organization's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Health Commission of the City and County of San Francisco remembers the late Elaine Mikels for her pioneering contribution to community mental health and psychosocial rehabilitation, and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the HEALTH COMMISSION congratulates Conard House residents and clients on their recovery and re-entry into the life of the San Francisco community, and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Health Commission commends the hundred of professional staff and volunteers of Conard House from 1960 to the present for their dedication to improving the lives of San Franciscans with mental illness.

I hereby certify that the San Francisco Health Commission at its meeting on October 20, 2009 adopted the foregoing resolution.

  
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Grace Alderson  
Acting Commission Executive Secretary