

**RESOLUTION ENDORSING THE NATIONAL LEAGUE OF CITIES
PLATFORM FOR STRENGTHENING FAMILIES AND IMPROVING
OUTCOMES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH.**

WHEREAS, the City of Rapid City finds that strong families form the backbone of strong communities; and

WHEREAS, the City of Rapid City considers the health and well-being of its children and youth to be a top priority; and

WHEREAS, the City of Rapid City recognizes that public safety, economic development, fiscal stability, a strong workforce, and an educated citizenry all depend on investments made to help families and children succeed; and

WHEREAS, the National League of Cities Council on Youth, Education and Families (YEF) has developed and adopted a city platform for strengthening families and improving outcomes for children and youth; and

WHEREAS, the goal of the YEF Council and the platform that it has adopted is to challenge every city and town and provide them with guidance on how to take concrete steps that are likely to yield immediate and significant results in any community, regardless of its size or composition; and

WHEREAS, the platform developed by the YEF Council is a two-part platform for municipal leadership, thereby offering an opportunity for mayors and other city leaders to place the needs of children, youth and families high on their city's agenda; and

WHEREAS, the first part of the platform highlights the essential infrastructure, four key functions and processes that the YEF Council has identified as playing a crucial role in effective or sustained investment in children and families; and

WHEREAS, the second part of the platform calls on municipal leaders to take a series of more specific action steps in each of seven issue areas such as health and safety, youth in transition or at risk, family economic success, neighborhood and community; and

WHEREAS, the National League of Cities YEF Institute will support municipalities that adopt and implement the platform by providing information, examples from other cities and towns, access to national experts and monitoring the progress made on the platform's action steps; and

WHEREAS, the Common Council of Rapid City deems that it is in Rapid City's best interests to endorse the YEF Council's platform.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Rapid City endorses the platform of the National League of Cities Council on Youth, Education and Families and

will support and carry out its initiatives of opening more doors to address the needs and conditions of American children and families.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Rapid City also endorses launching a public education campaign to promote the YEF Council's platform.

Dated this ____ day of June, 2007.

CITY OF RAPID CITY

Mayor

ATTEST:

Finance Officer