



PROCLAMATION

FIRST STEP RECOVERY HOMES INC. 30th Anniversary

WHEREAS, First Step Recovery Homes was founded in 1992 when Mr. Keith Giles began providing structured, drug- and alcohol-free housing for men in a single Penny Street residence; and

WHEREAS, In response to increased awareness of the prevalence of broken homes due to substance abuse and misuse, Mr. Giles formally incorporated First Step as a nonprofit service organization in 1994 – allowing him to increase the organization’s footprint on Penny Street and beyond; and

WHEREAS, The mission of First Step Recovery Homes is to emphasize sustainable recovery for those struggling with the disease of addiction by providing a means to maintain independence while receiving support from peers as well as professional therapists, social workers, and medical specialists; and

WHEREAS, First Step Recovery Homes has been in the forefront of social service in Allegheny County by initiating wraparound services, including family support with a strong focus on conflict resolution and communication; and

WHEREAS, The McKeesport community has embraced First Step Recovery Homes’ success in providing the recovery community with the essential tools and resources needed to remain clean and sober in order to fulfill their lives’ purpose.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Mayor of the City of McKeesport, I do hereby recognize First Step Recovery Homes Inc. for its commitment to public health, addiction awareness, and community support services, leading to this organization’s successful 30-year presence in our City.

IN WITNESS HEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City to be affixed this Twenty-Sixth Day of August in the Year of our Lord 2023.



SIGNED AND SEALED

By: 
Michael E. Cherepko, Mayor

Office of the Lieutenant Governor



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

WHEREAS, First Step Recovery Homes, Inc. is celebrating its 30th Anniversary; and

WHEREAS, Initiated in McKeesport in 1992, First Step Recovery Homes Inc. is the dream of its founder and CEO, Mr. Keith Giles. Starting out as a one unit, First Step has grown through the years and now houses clients in a transitional and long-term basis operating from three units. The organization serves as the foundation in which over 600 participants have development the willingness, faith, and courage to face and meet life's challenges without the dependance of drugs and alcohol; and

WHEREAS, First Step Recovery Homes, Inc. has assisted clients from McKeesport, Pittsburgh, Mon Valley, and surrounding areas throughout Allegheny County with recovery support services including transitional and long-term housing, case management, drug and alcohol education, domestic violence groups, family reunification, nutrition and health education, job creation opportunities, and much more; and

WHEREAS, First Step Recovery Homes mission to provide supervised, temporary and safe drug and alcohol free structured housing and supportive services for persons recovering from the disease of addiction has helped hundreds of people in the Pittsburgh and surrounding communities to find resources to stay clean and sober, fulfill their life's purpose, and connect with loved ones; and now therefore be it

RESOLVED, I, Austin A. Davis, Lieutenant Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Wish to congratulate First Step Recovery Homes Inc. on their 30-year anniversary, and hope that they will continue to help transform the lives of those they serve for many years to come.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Austin A. Davis".

Austin A. Davis
Lieutenant Governor
August 26, 2023



Senate of Pennsylvania



HARRISBURG, PA

Congratulations

In the Senate, August 15, 2023

Whereas, The Senate of Pennsylvania takes great pride in recognizing those organizations which, through adherence to the highest standards of service, contribute in a meaningful way toward a better and more productive society; and

Whereas, First Step Recovery Homes, Inc., is celebrating the momentous occasion of its thirtieth anniversary; and

Whereas, Established by Executive Director Keith Giles in November 1992, First Step Recovery Homes, Inc., provides supervised, temporary and safe housing and supportive services for individuals in recovery. Serving clients in McKeesport, Pittsburgh, the Mon Valley and surrounding areas of Allegheny County, the organization provides a variety of services, including case management, assessments and referrals, education, recovery groups and support, transitional and long-term housing, permanent housing referrals, social and recreational activities, job creation opportunities and vocational and educational assessment referrals. First Step Recovery Homes, Inc., has developed a strong reputation for the highest quality of service throughout its history. By steady adherence to the principles of fairness, reliability and integrity, it has become a leader in the community and a model that is worthy of emulation. Over the years, those in leadership positions, as well as its staff members, have contributed in a tremendous way to its growth and development.

Now therefore, the Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania congratulates First Step Recovery Homes, Inc., upon its richly deserved recognition; extends warmest wishes for a future replete with ever-increasing success;

And directs that a copy of this document, sponsored by Senator James R. Brewster, be transmitted to First Step Recovery Homes, Inc.





Senator Jim Brewster



Kim Ward, President Pro Tempore

Attest:


Michael C. Gerdés, Secretary

CITY OF

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR



PITTSBURGH

A PROCLAMATION

First Step Recovery Homes

Celebrating 30 Years of Extraordinary Service

Saturday, August Twenty-Sixth Two Thousand & Twenty-Three

WHEREAS, Founded by Keith Giles in 1992, First Step Recovery Homes, Inc. began by leasing one house at 330 Penny Street in McKeesport, PA. Mr. Giles solely supported the program by housing no more than a few men at a time. First Step now houses clients on a transitional and long-term basis, operating from three units and

WHEREAS, The organization serves as the foundation in which participants have developed the willingness, faith, and courage to face and meet life's challenges without dependence on drugs and alcohol and

WHEREAS, The Mission of First Step Recovery Homes, Inc. is to provide a supervised, temporary, safe drug and alcohol-free structured housing and support services for persons who are recovering from the disease of addiction and trying to stay out of the criminal justice system and

WHEREAS, First Step was founded because they understand it takes more than a rehabilitation center or recovery (drop-in) center to begin recovering from a drug or alcohol addiction. The emphasis is placed on creating a sustainable "recovery community" for each person, where they have the tools, resources, and support to maintain independence, stay clean and sober, fulfill their life's purpose, and reconnect with their loved ones and

WHEREAS, First Step Recovery Home, Inc. has been at the forefront of assisting participants with wrap-around services, including family support, to facilitate healthy households contributing to wholesome communities. Our hope for participants is for them to understand that they have a unique purpose and to help them achieve sustainable lives, including embracing their role within the family structure.

*NOW THEREFORE, I, Ed Gainey, Mayor of the City of Pittsburgh, do hereby proclaim August 26, 2023, as **First Step Recovery Homes Day** in the City of Pittsburgh. This proclamation is a testament to the tireless work undertaken by First Step Recovery Home, Inc. and its dynamic, dedicated, and visionary Founder/CEO Keith Giles. The Mayor also extends his most profound gratitude for the enduring contributions of the First Step Recovery Home, Inc. and for fostering positive change and men's growth in the City of McKeesport and beyond.*



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the City of Pittsburgh at the City County Building in the First Ward of the City of Pittsburgh 414 Grant Street, Pittsburgh, PA. 15219 on this Twenty-Sixth day of August in the year Two Thousand & Twenty-Three

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ed Gainey".

Ed Gainey
MAYOR OF PITTSBURGH

Senate of Pennsylvania



HARRISBURG, PA

Congratulations

In the Senate, August 15, 2023

Whereas, The Senate of Pennsylvania takes great pleasure in recognizing those citizens who, through dedication and excellence, contribute in a meaningful way to the well-being of their communities and ultimately to all the people of this great Commonwealth; and

Whereas, Keith Giles is being honored for thirty years of dedicated service to First Step Recovery Homes, Inc.; and

Whereas, Mr. Giles began his career as a laborer with the Manchester Citizens Corporation and, in November 1992, he established First Step Recovery Homes, Inc., which he currently serves as Executive Director. To its great credit, the organization provides supervised, temporary and safe housing and supportive services to individuals recovering from addiction. A promoter of family reunification, Mr. Giles has helped men in recovery obtain the necessary skills to become responsible, caring and committed husbands, fathers and citizens over the past three decades. In addition, he established the Social Entrepreneur Program micro business enterprise of lawn care and landscaping to provide jobs and training to those in need. A certified Master of Addictions Counselor through the National Association of Forensic Counselors and the American College of Forensic Counselors, Mr. Giles has been involved with various Boards and advisory groups, including Pro-A, the Center For Spirituality, the Petra Ministries Advisory Board, We The People, Communities In Action for Peace and the Coalition for Leadership, Education, Advocacy & Recovery.

Now therefore, the Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania congratulates Keith Giles upon his richly deserved recognition; affirmatively states that he is a shining example of community spirit whose many contributions are worthy of deep gratitude and respect;

And directs that a copy of this document, sponsored by Senator James R. Brewster, be transmitted to Keith Giles.




Senator Jim Brewster


Kim Ward, President Pro Tempore

Attest:

Michael C. Gerdes, Secretary



Whereas First Step Recovery Homes was initiated in 1992 as envisioned by founder and CEO Keith Giles; and

Whereas First Step started out by housing clients in a single unit, and now they own three units in which they support clients through transitional phases of life as well as long term; and

Whereas the housing that First Step provides is a safe, caring, supervised environment free of drugs and alcohol to ensure client' success; and

Whereas First Step has given over 600 clients the tools to face the challenges of life without addictions to drugs or alcohol; and

Whereas First Step also aids individuals in staying out of the criminal justice system and teaches them to use their recovery skills to lead inspirational lives; and

Whereas First Step Recovery Homes is celebrating their 30th anniversary of supporting individuals in our community who are battling addictions and becoming the best version of themselves.

Now therefore be it resolved, that the Honorable Representative Matthew R. Gergely recognizes First Step Recovery Homes for their dedication to building and sustaining recovery communities, as well as for their admirable service to hundreds of individuals battling addiction.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Matthew R. Gergely", written over a horizontal line.

State Representative Matthew R. Gergely

Pennsylvania House of Representatives

35th Legislative District



United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D. C.

ROBERT P. CASEY, JR.
PENNSYLVANIA

August 10, 2023

Dear Friends,

It gives me great pleasure to extend my warmest regards and congratulations as you celebrate the 30th anniversary of First Step Recovery Homes.

This anniversary is a remarkable milestone and a true testament to your dedication and commitment to providing safe housing and services for people recovering from addiction. Thank you for all the work you have done to help those who need it the most in Allegheny County.

I look forward to your continued success.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bob Casey, Jr." in a cursive style.

Robert P. Casey, Jr.
United States Senator

First Step Recovery Homes, Inc.
In Care of Mr. Keith Giles
336 Penny Street
McKeesport, Pennsylvania 15132