



## Travis County Commissioners Court Agenda Request

**Meeting Date:** September 2, 2014  
**Prepared By/Phone Number:** David Salazar  
Office of the Travis County Judge  
512-854-9555

**Elected/Appointed Official/Dept. Head:** Samuel T. Biscoe  
Travis County Judge

**Commissioners Court Sponsor:**

### **AGENDA LANGUAGE:**

APPROVE RESOLUTION CELEBRATING THE 15TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE COUNCIL ON AT-RISK YOUTH AND ITS SERVICE TO THE YOUTH AND FAMILIES OF TRAVIS COUNTY AND DECLARING SEPTEMBER 2014 THROUGH AUGUST 2015 "CARY YOUTH VIOLENCE PREVENTION YEAR" IN TRAVIS COUNTY.

### **BACKGROUND/SUMMARY OF REQUEST AND ATTACHMENTS:**

Please see attached.

### **STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:**

### **ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES:**

### **FISCAL IMPACT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:**

### **REQUIRED AUTHORIZATIONS:**

## Proclamation

Be it known that

**Whereas**, fifteen years ago on September, 1999, the Council on At-Risk Youth (CARY) was founded with the mission of “helping youth promote safe schools and safe communities,” and

**Whereas**, considerable research shows that serious school disciplinary acts are powerful predictors for future criminality, according to Texas Appleseed, the Institute for Policy Research at Texas A & M University and the Council of State Legislators’ Delinquency and Youth Violence Prevention; and

**Whereas**, program evaluations show that CARY program participants decrease anti-social behaviors and make significant reductions in all administrative disciplinary actions and incidents of school violence at every level of severity; and surveys with school administrators, counselors and parents show significant improvements in student attitudes, behaviors and social skills, resulting in CARY students closing the “pipeline to prison”; and

**Whereas**, CARY’s PeaceRox program using the evidence-based Aggression Replacement Training program focuses on the serious school disciplinary violators with documented acts of assault, abuse, aggression, verbal threats, intimidation of others and weapons or drug possession in ten Austin schools; and

**Whereas**, the CARY Delinquency and Youth violence prevention model has been recognized internationally by the British Parliament House of Commons Select Justice Committee and recognized nationally by criminal justice reform advocate Piper Kerman of Orange is The New Black; and

**Whereas**, fifteen years of funding support has come from federal grants, Travis County, the City of Austin, foundations, and individual and business donors, allowing CARY to successfully provide prevention services to more than 6,500 at-risk youth, showing significant reductions in delinquent and criminal activity and resulting in safe schools and safe communities in Travis County,

Now, therefore I, \_\_\_\_\_, do hereby proclaim

## **CARY Youth Violence Prevention Year**