

# CITATION

The City of Philadelphia has a worldwide reputation as the City of Brotherly Love because of the amazing character and desire of our residents to help their fellow Philadelphians. That spirit has deep roots in our City and the tradition has continued over several generations of people who selflessly and with great dedication work to help others. The City of Philadelphia commends these individuals and organizations that promote such beneficial work and hopes their recognition inspires the next generation of Philadelphians to do the same.

Methodist Services (formerly Methodist Orphanage for Children) is one of those such distinguished groups that is part of our immense history of support for those in need. The historic organization provides life enriching programs to children, adults and families as they face the challenges of limited resources, increased poverty, homelessness, disabilities and inequities in education. Methodist Services provides early childhood education, school age programs, housing services, supports for families, mental health and counseling services, and nutrition programs. Methodist Services began in Philadelphia in 1879 to meet the needs of children orphaned as a result of the Civil War. Mrs. Ellen Simpson, wife of Bishop Matthew Simpson, issued a call to the women of the church to organize a charity to provide for the needy orphans. The property and building that comprise of their Main Campus was a generous gift from Colonel Joseph Bennett in 1879. The diversity of programs offered by Methodist today reflects the changing needs of individuals, children and families in our community. Although their services have changed, their commitment to strengthening families and producing the next generation of leaders has remained central.

Serving 2,800 children, individuals and families, annually, Methodist Services/Methodist Home for Children has been dedicated to the well-being of children in all walks of life for the past 140 years. By providing access to a safe home and family life, health of mind and body, children, adults and families achieve their greatest potential. It is with these supports that our most vulnerable citizens are able to make a positive impact within Philadelphia's diverse communities.

Forging new-community standards, Methodist Services is in the midst of creating a safe, stable home environment, which will address the social determinants of health. Inglis Methodist Gardens will be an inclusive community of 47 accessible, affordable, technologically-enhanced apartments in the Wynnefield Heights neighborhood of Philadelphia. Developed by Inglis and Methodist Services, the community is designed to provide supportive housing to people living with significant physical disabilities and to families and individuals seeking to avoid homelessness through stable, supportive housing.

It is fitting and appropriate, therefore, that the City of Philadelphia officially recognize with this Citation

## **METHODIST SERVICES:**

## **CELEBRATING 140 YEARS OF SERVICE**

and urge everyone to recognize their selfless and faithful service to their community and commend Methodist Services for its continued work to benefit our residents and our City.



James F. Kenney

Mayor

October 3, 2020

