

RESOLUTION NO.16-18

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF CLEARWATER,
FLORIDA, ENDORSING THE “HOUSING FIRST AND
COORDINATED ENTRY SYSTEM”; PROVIDING AN
EFFECTIVE DATE.**

WHEREAS, the Pinellas County Homeless Leadership Board, Inc. (HLB) is committed to developing a homeless services system that ensures that homelessness among Pinellas County citizens is rare, brief, and nonrecurring; and

WHEREAS, the HLB is the designated Continuum of Care (CoC) for Pinellas County through the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD); and

WHEREAS, HUD has established a commitment to the “Housing First” philosophy, which under federal law is an approach to homeless assistance that prioritizes rapid placement and stabilization in permanent housing and does not have service participation requirements or preconditions such as sobriety or a minimum income threshold and includes the minimum components: 1) removing barriers to entry; 2) establishing a coordinated entry system; 3) practicing client-centered service delivery; 4) prioritizing households most in need; and 5) ensuring inclusive decision making; and

WHEREAS, HUD has established a requirement for each CoC to implement a Coordinated Entry System; and

WHEREAS, the HLB is developing a Coordinated Entry System for full implementation in FY 2016 in order to effectively assess and prioritize housing needs and mitigate recurrences of homelessness; and

WHEREAS, on June 22, 2010, the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness released the nation’s first comprehensive strategy for ending chronic homelessness entitled *Opening Doors: Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness*, which endorsed Housing First as a best practice; and

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2016, the Homeless Leadership Board of the HLB passed a Resolution to encourage all homeless housing projects funded through HUD to practice a Housing First model by April 2019; and

WHEREAS, the HLB has requested that the City Council for the City of Clearwater adopt a Resolution endorsing the HLB “Housing First and Coordinated Entry System”; now, therefore,

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY
OF CLEARWATER, FLORIDA:**

Section 1. The City Council for the City of Clearwater, Florida hereby endorses the "Housing First and Coordinated Entry System" being implemented by the Pinellas County Homeless Leadership Board, Inc.

Section 2. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this _____ day of _____, 2016.

George N. Cretekos
Mayor

Approved as to form:

Attest:

Robert J. Surette
Assistant City Attorney

Rosemarie Call
City Clerk