

# Whereas

*Whereas,* after twenty years of training in ministry, Dr. Hardy was named Senior Pastor of the Highland Christian Center in 1996; and

*Whereas,* Dr. Hardy formed the nonprofit Highland Haven to serve distressed Portland communities, with programs including youth ministries, a 12-step substance abuse recovery program, prison ministry, homeless shelters, and more; and

*Whereas,* he built a new life for the Highland Christian Center as a community gathering place, open to all; and

*Whereas,* Dr. Hardy's passion for education and serving young people helped the church establish partnerships with Albina Head Start, Multnomah County, the State of Oregon, Portland Public Schools, Concordia University, Portland State University, George Fox University, Self Enhancement, Inc., and others; and

*Whereas,* his support for our community extends beyond his church, including service on the Board of the African American Chamber, and support and collaboration with Project Clean Slate and Project Second Chance to help thousands of Oregonians re-start their lives; and

*Whereas,* under Dr. Hardy's leadership and guidance, the African American Mental Health Coalition opened the Oregon Health and Science University's Avel Gordly Center for Healing, making a real difference in the lives of those suffering mental illnesses; and

*Whereas,* he has been proud to share his powerful messages as a featured speaker across the globe, including in Africa, Italy, and Israel; and

*Whereas,* Dr. Hardy's steadfast, servant leadership leaves a lasting legacy that will inspire our community for generations to come;

*Now, Therefore,* I, Charlie Hales, Mayor of the City of Portland, Oregon, the "City of Roses," do hereby proclaim June 4, 2015 to be a day of recognition for

*Rev. Dr. W.G. Hardy, Jr.*

in Portland, and encourage all citizens to observe this day.

*Charlie Hales*

