

RESOLUTION No. 26-

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DORAL, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING MUNICIPAL SPONSORSHIPS TO EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR DEMOCRACY INC., IN THE AMOUNT OF SIX HUNDRED DOLLARS AND 00/100 (\$600.00); VENEZOLANOS Y AMERICANOS INC DBA VEAMERICA, IN THE AMOUNT OF SIX HUNDRED AND 00/100 (\$600.00); MY VOICE COUNTS CHARITIES FOUNDATION INC., IN THE AMOUNT OF SIX HUNDRED DOLLARS AND 00/100 (\$600.00); AND RAYITO DE LUZ CORP, IN THE AMOUNT OF SEVEN HUNDRED DOLLARS AND 00/100 (\$700.00) PURSUANT TO SECTION 2-79 OF THE CITY'S CODE OF ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR IMPLEMENTATION; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, Section 2-79 of the Code of Ordinances for the City of Doral ("City") governs municipal sponsorships and provides that each councilmember is allotted \$5,000.00 per fiscal year (contingent upon annual city budget approval), to sponsor eligible applicants whose events, services, and programs support the city's vision, mission, and values as set forth in the city's adopted strategic plan and provide a community benefit; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of this section is to establish procedures for all municipal sponsorships including the disbursement of discretionary funds approved by city councilmembers to sponsor programs, services, events, and charitable and civic organizations that serve a municipal purpose; and

WHEREAS, Councilman Rafael Pineyro proposes a municipal sponsorship in the amount of six hundred dollars and 00/100 (\$600.00) for Educational Foundation for Democracy Inc, a nonprofit organization whose mission and activities align with the values and priorities of the City of Doral by fostering civic engagement, democratic principles, and leadership development; and

WHEREAS, Educational Foundation for Democracy Inc provides essential community-based services such as civic rights workshops, youth governance initiatives, and educational seminars on constitutional principles, directly benefiting Doral residents and enhancing the city's informed and active citizenry; and

WHEREAS, the Foundation has demonstrated a sustained commitment to inclusivity, ethical leadership, and civic responsibility, creating opportunities for residents of all ages to participate in programs that strengthen the democratic fabric and social cohesion of the City; and

WHEREAS, Councilman Rafael Pineyro proposes a municipal sponsorship in the amount of six hundred dollars and 00/100 (\$600.00) for Venezolanos y Americanos Inc DBA VeAmerica, a nonprofit organization whose mission and activities align with the values and priorities of the City of Doral by promoting social integration, professional networking, and cultural advocacy; and

WHEREAS, Venezolanos y Americanos Inc DBA VeAmerica provides essential community-based services such as entrepreneurial mentorship, professional development forums, and cultural exchange programs, directly benefiting Doral residents and enhancing the economic and social well-being of the city's diverse population; and

WHEREAS, the organization has demonstrated a sustained commitment to inclusivity, bilateral cooperation, and civic engagement, creating opportunities for residents of all backgrounds to participate in initiatives that strengthen the cultural fabric and local business environment of the City; and

WHEREAS, Councilman Rafael Pineyro proposes a municipal sponsorship in the amount of six hundred dollars and 00/100 (\$600.00) for My Voice Counts Charities

Foundation Inc, a nonprofit organization dedicated to advancing social equity and human rights for immigrant and refugee communities; and

WHEREAS, My Voice Counts Charities Foundation Inc is most prominently known for its national leadership in the movement for the Venezuelan Adjustment Act (H.R. 1348), a bipartisan legislative effort aimed at providing permanent residency to eligible Venezuelan nationals in the United States. To support this mission, the organization conducts critical data-gathering initiatives, such as the National Census of Venezuelan Entrepreneurs, to highlight the economic contributions of immigrants to U.S. legislators; and

WHEREAS, beyond immigration reform, the foundation maintains a diverse advocacy portfolio that includes anti-bullying programs, social inclusion projects, and climate change initiatives, consistently bridging the gap between grassroots needs and congressional action; and

WHEREAS, Councilman Rafael Pineyro proposes a municipal sponsorship in the amount of seven hundred dollars and 00/100 (\$700.00) for Rayito de Luz Corp., a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing therapeutic and educational support for children with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, Rayito de Luz Corp (aka Rayito de Luz Foundation) specializes in alternative rehabilitation treatments, including aqua therapy, equine therapy, and dolphin therapy, designed to improve the physical and neurological well-being of children with special needs. It is led by Ricky Russian, who also serves as the founder of the Wet Dolphin Swimming Academy, creating a seamless partnership between clinical rehabilitation and aquatic skill-building; and

WHEREAS, Rayito de Luz and Wet Dolphin Swimming Academy host community-focused initiatives such as "Swimming for a Special Child," which offers free aquatic therapies to children who might otherwise lack access. This effectively bridges the gap between recreational swimming and medical therapy, leveraging a shared mission to enhance the safety and independence of vulnerable youth in the South Florida community; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that the proposed municipal sponsorships comply with Section 2-79 of the City's Code of Ordinances and finds that the donations serve a valid municipal purpose by supporting the artistic and cultural development of youth in Doral.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DORAL, FLORIDA:

Section 1. Authorization. The City of Doral hereby authorizes a municipal sponsorship in the amount of six hundred dollars and 00/100 (\$600.00) to Educational Foundation for Democracy Inc; a municipal sponsorship in the amount of six hundred dollars and 00/100 (\$600.00) to Venezolanos y Americanos Inc DBA VeAmerica; a municipal sponsorship in the amount of six hundred dollars and 00/100 (\$600.00) for My Voice Counts Charities Foundation Inc., and a municipal sponsorship in the amount of seven hundred dollars and 00/100 (\$700.00) for Rayito de Luz Corp pursuant to Section 2-79 of the City's Code of Ordinances.

Section 2. Implementation. The City Manager and City Attorney are authorized to take any additional actions necessary to implement this Resolution, including making

any modifications, executing any documents and addendums as necessary to effectuate this Resolution, provided that such actions remain consistent with the Council’s intent.

Section 3. Effective Date. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Councilman Rafael Pineyro.

The foregoing Resolution was offered by _____ who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by _____ and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Mayor Christi Fraga	_____
Vice Mayor Digna Cabral	_____
Councilman Rafael Pineyro	_____
Councilwoman Maureen Porras	_____
Councilwoman Nicole Reinoso	_____

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 13 day of May, 2026.

CHRISTI FRAGA, MAYOR

ATTEST:

CONNIE DIAZ, MMC
CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY
FOR THE USE AND RELIANCE OF THE CITY OF DORAL ONLY:

LORENZO COBIELLA
GASTESI, LOPEZ, MESTRE & COBIELLA, PLLC
CITY ATTORNEY