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RESOLUTION - Recognizing Marlene's Kaleidoscope that strives to improve the lives of those impacted by Lupus.

**Sponsors:** Melissa Robinson, Andrea Bough, Ryana Parks-Shaw, Eric Bunch, Quinton Lucas, Crispin Rea, Wes Rogers, Lindsay French, Darrell Curls

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RESOLUTION NO. 230917

Sponsor: Councilmember Melissa Robinson

RESOLUTION - Recognizing Marlene's Kaleidoscope that strives to improve the lives of those impacted by Lupus.

WHEREAS, Marlene's Kaleidoscope (MK4LUPUS) is a non-profit organization in Greater Kansas City that strives to improve the lives of those impacted by Lupus. Lupus is a chronic autoimmune disease that affects multiple organs, and it is estimated that around 1.5 million Americans, or 0.5% of the population, live with the disease. Unfortunately, about 11,000 individuals in Greater Kansas City are affected by this condition, which has higher morbidity and mortality rates among minority groups, making it a crucial public health concern; and

WHEREAS, MK4LUPUS offers free services such as Lunch & Learns, Support Groups, physician referrals, prescription assistance, and a Love Basket program for those who are sick and shut-in due to Lupus. Our public awareness campaigns, such as "Get the Conversation Started About Lupus," help to illustrate the complexities of Lupus and the importance of early identification diagnosis, mental health, and effective self-care management. We also provide access to resources that people need to manage their disease; and

WHEREAS, the organization's dedication lies in: targeting uninsured and underserved women, men, and children with Lupus or those at a high risk of developing the disease, improving the lives of Lupus patients, offering specialized care and treatment for those living with Lupus, disseminating accurate information about Lupus and its effects, educating the public and medical community about Lupus and its effects, fostering a sense of community among Lupus patients to prevent isolation, and providing a sympathetic ear to those who need to talk about Lupus; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF KANSAS CITY:

That the Mayor and Council hereby recognize Marlene's Kaleidoscope (MK4LUPUS) that strives to improve the lives of those impacted by Lupus; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution be spread upon the Minutes of the Council in testimony thereof and that a copy hereof be presented to LaTanya Lipprand with the appreciation of the Mayor and Council for the work being done to inform our community of this devastating disease.

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