

DURHAM BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Resolution

ARNOLD DENNIS

- WHEREAS,** Arnold Dennis was born in New York, New York, where he received his secondary education before attending Wilberforce University, and Howard University for his undergraduate studies; and
- WHEREAS,** following graduation, he returned to Long Island, New York to attend Adelphi University where he received a master’s degree in social work; and
- WHEREAS,** thereafter, he worked in various departments of the U.S. social and justice systems where he came to understand a need for more equity, and fairness in the lives of black children, black families, and black communities; and
- WHEREAS,** his passion to help others led him to spend two years in Tanzania where he taught young men in a secondary school; and
- WHEREAS,** eventually his family found their way to Durham, NC where Arnold Dennis spent a lifetime helping to build better lives for young men who were justice involved, or to prevent them from becoming justice involved; and
- WHEREAS,** he unselfishly shared his talents with others, leading as a visionary and mentor for many young men who joined his “Rites of Passage” program, known for its positive impact on impressionable young black males; and
- WHEREAS,** after retiring from Durham County Government where he served as Youth Home Director from 1985-2005, he joined North Carolina Central University as a faculty member in the Criminal Justice Department continuing to share his passion and intellect with the next generation of leaders; and
- WHEREAS,** Arnold Dennis will long be remembered as a role model, mentor, and dynamic visionary to all whose lives he touched

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the members of the Durham County Board of Commissioners, do hereby resolve to honor the memory of:

MR. ARNOLD DENNIS

We urge all Durham County residents to remember this amazing life force and the unique contributions he made to the entire Durham community and beyond.

This the 27th day of November 2023.

Brenda Howerton, Chair

Wendy Jacobs, Vice-Chair

Nida Allam, Commissioner

Nimasheena Burns, Commissioner

Heidi Carter, Commissioner

