

**CITY COUNCIL****The City of Orange Township, New Jersey**DATE May 19, 2020NUMBER 199-2020**TITLE: A RESOLUTION CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF DORIS FORD ELLIS.  
(Sponsored by Council Member Donna K. Williams)**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Orange Township, New Jersey mourns the passing of **Doris Ford Ellis**; and

**WHEREAS**, we come together during this time of sadness to pay tribute to and celebrate the life of **Doris Ford Ellis** who was a vital and central force in her family and valued member of the community; and

**WHEREAS**, **Doris Ford Ellis** is a former Essex County Coach of the Year and Montclair resident who taught at the Newark and Montclair Boards of Education for nearly 35 years. She led the Montclair Girls Track team to multiple championships and record-breaking performances. She coached a host of successful student-athletes including collegiate track stars and Olympians Mikele Barber and Me'Lisa Barber. She loved and mentored many, supported them in their accomplishments and their many milestones; and

**WHEREAS**, **Doris Ford Ellis** loved to be on the go. She has traveled the World, driven through storms, and rain not wanting to miss a thing in my life or the life of many she loved. She also loved cooking and was known for her macaroni and cheese and her potato salad. She would often entertain and plan great events where people could enjoy a great time; and

**WHEREAS**, **Doris Ford Ellis** also loved to shop for clothes, food, furniture too. If she saw something for friends she would stop and get it. She loved a mission to go out from store to store, city, town or state to find it. Not only did she love missions, she was a missionary and wanted to go out on the field, she was a home missionary. She did not hesitate to help those in need. She would visit the sick and shut in and would even provide monetary gifts; and

**WHEREAS**, in New Jersey, **Doris Ford Ellis** was a faithful member of Union Baptist Church of Orange. She faithfully served as a Sunday School teacher, President of the Pastor's Aid, and choir member. She was also active in the Shiloh Association and President of the Women; and

**WHEREAS**, **Doris Ford Ellis** later relocated from Montclair, New Jersey to College Park, Maryland to live with her daughter, Darlene Nowlin, and her family. She took pride in helping to raise her grandson, Justin; and

**WHEREAS**, **Doris Ford Ellis** made a life for herself in her new home. She joined Mount Jezreel Baptist Church and was active in the church and many ministries there. She served as a Sunday School teacher and was a part of LOCASHA (i.e. Loving, Caring and Sharing). She also continued her missions in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area and often socialized with many friends new and old; and

**WHEREAS**, **Doris Ford Ellis** passed away on April 21, 2020; and

**WHEREAS, Doris Ford Ellis** He is survived by: daughter, Darlene Ellis Nowlin (Jimmy), sisters, Ruby Boston of Newark and Mattie West (Nathaniel) of Chicago, IL, brother, Billy Hursey, Meridian, MS, her grandson, Justin, a godson, Michael Fleming and a host of family, friends, and former students; and

**WHEREAS, Doris Ford Ellis** was full of purpose and touched many lives with her kindness, compassion and wisdom. Although the light of this shining star has dimmed, her legacy will blaze on forever serving as a source of joy, comfort and inspiration to those fortunate to have known her.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the City Council of the City of Orange Township do hereby offer sincere condolences to the family of **Doris Ford Ellis**. May the warm memories bring joy and comfort in the days ahead.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the City Council urges residents, following the passage of this Resolution to do random acts of kindness towards other in the memory of **Doris Ford Ellis**.

**Adopted:**

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**Joyce L. Lanier**  
City Clerk

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**Tency A. Eason**  
Council President