

PROCLAMATION



City and County of Denver

**Proclamation No. 18-1156
In Recognition of Francisco “Cisco” Gallardo and
His Work Reducing Gang Violence in Denver**

WHEREAS, Francisco “Cisco” Gallardo and his two siblings were raised in North Denver by a single mother after their parents divorced when he was three years old; and

WHEREAS, as a young adolescent, Cisco found himself spending the majority of his time with friends, this small barrio clique rapidly escalated into a violent life of deadly rivalries between Denver Neighborhoods, which saw him losing friends to death and prison; and

WHEREAS, at age 18 he was facing 48 years in prison, ultimately sentenced to a community corrections program where he decided to regain control of his life and help others avoid the path that he was on through a philosophy of “Cultura Cura” (Culture Cures); and

WHEREAS, Cisco built on this philosophy, creating a model of how gang members can change their lives by redefining three words – Respect, Power, Pride – refining the philosophy and model into actions by founding and publishing two positive barrio youth-oriented magazines and founding the non-profit organization Barrio Warriors de Aztlan, which dealt with Chicano issues in the political sphere; and

WHEREAS, Cisco is currently the Program Director of the Gang Rescue and Support Project (GRASP), a gang-intervention and leadership non-profit that works with Denver area youth involved in the gang activities or in danger of joining a gang; and

WHEREAS, Cisco’s presence, leadership and life’s work to heal his community from generational trauma by diverting thousands of individuals from joining, while helping active members leave gang activity, his efforts have been recognized locally, nationally and internationally as he has been invited to dozens of speaking engagements about his experiences and road out of gang life to personal success.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER:

Section 1. That the Council of the City and County of Denver recognizes the importance of reducing gang violence in Denver and how both active and former gang members can play an active role in eliminating gang violence in our communities, empowering those that want to turn their life around by being a positive influence.

Section 2. That the Clerk of the City and County of Denver shall attest and affix the seal of the City and County of Denver to this proclamation and that a copy be transmitted to Francisco “Cisco” Gallardo.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL October 8, 2018

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'M. J. ...', written over a horizontal line.

PRESIDENT