

N 990000004459
 Gunster Yeakley
 Requestor's Name

Address
 222-6660
 City/State/Zip Phone #

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CORPORATION NAME(S) & DOCUMENT NUMBER(S), (if known):

1. The Next Step Center, Inc
 (Corporation Name) (Document #)
2. _____
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3. _____
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4. _____
 (Corporation Name) (Document #)

- ☐ Walk in ☐ Pick up time _____ ☒ Certified Copy
☐ Mail out ☐ Will wait ☐ Photocopy ☐ Certificate of State

NEW FILINGS	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Profit
<input type="checkbox"/>	NonProfit
<input type="checkbox"/>	Limited Liability
<input type="checkbox"/>	Domestication
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other

AMENDMENTS	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Amendment
<input type="checkbox"/>	Resignation of R.A., Officer/ Director
<input type="checkbox"/>	Change of Registered Agent
<input type="checkbox"/>	Dissolution/Withdrawal
<input type="checkbox"/>	Merger

OTHER FILINGS	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Annual Report
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fictitious Name
<input type="checkbox"/>	Name Reservation

REGISTRATION/ QUALIFICATION	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Foreign
<input type="checkbox"/>	Limited Partnership
<input type="checkbox"/>	Reinstatement
<input type="checkbox"/>	Trademark
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other

FILED RECEIVED
 99 JUL 27 AM 11:45
 99 JUL 27 AM 10:29
 SECRETARY OF STATE
 TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

*Call when
 Ready
 222-6660*

ajc 7/27

**ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION
OF
THE NEXT STEP CENTER, INC.**

(A Not For Profit Corporation)

FILED
99 JUL 27 AM 11:46
STATE OF FLORIDA
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

The undersigned, acknowledges and files in the Office of the Secretary of State of Florida, for the purpose of forming a corporation not for profit in accordance with the "Florida Not For Profit Corporation Act" of the laws of the State of Florida, F.S. Chapter 617, these Articles of Incorporation.

**ARTICLE 1
CORPORATE NAME**

1.1 **Name.** The name of the Corporation shall be THE NEXT STEP CENTER, INC., and the principal office shall be at 3370 N.E. West Court, Jensen Beach, Florida 34957.

**ARTICLE 2
PURPOSES AND POWERS**

2.1 **Purposes.** The purposes for which the Corporation is formed exclusively for religious, charitable, scientific, literary, or educational purposes as described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, including providing counseling services, providing a personal hygiene pantry for those in need, providing substance abuse recovery houses, providing services for the homeless, assisting in blood drives, providing Christmas programs for the socio-economically disadvantaged, and conducting fund raising programs to permit the Corporation to fulfill its purposes.

2.2 **Powers.** To accomplish the foregoing purposes, the corporation shall have all corporate powers permitted under Florida law, including the capacity to contract, bring suit and be sued. No part of the income of the Corporation shall be distributed to the members, directors and officers of the corporation.

2.3 **Private Foundation Limitations.** The Corporation is specifically precluded from engaging in any prohibited activities as defined in Section 617.0105 (2), Florida Statutes, and shall meet all obligations required therein.

**ARTICLE 3
MEMBERSHIP**

3.1 **Membership.** No membership is provided by these Articles of Incorporation. However, the Corporation's Board of Directors shall have the power to create any class or classes membership to serve the charitable purposes of the Corporation provided:

- A. **No Discrimination.** No person shall be granted or denied membership based upon race, creed, sex, national origin, or physical handicap.
- B. **Equal and Uniform Requirements.** When and if created, the requirements for membership shall be provided for on an equal and uniform basis, free of any impermissible basis of discrimination.

ARTICLE 4 PERIOD OF DURATION

4.1 **Period of Duration.** The Corporation shall have perpetual existence. In the event of dissolution of this Corporation, no part of the Corporation's assets shall inure to the benefit of any member, officer or director, but shall instead be distributed to such charitable organization or organizations selected by the final Board of Directors of the corporation, which organization or organizations must qualify as charitable organizations under Article 501(c) (3) of the United States Internal Revenue Code of 1986 as the same may be amended.

ARTICLE 5 DIRECTORS OF CORPORATION

5.1 **Governing Board.** The affairs and property of the Corporation shall be managed and governed by a Board of Directors which shall initially be composed of five (5) persons. The number of Directors shall be determined in accordance with the Corporation's By-Laws; however, in no event shall the Board of Directors be composed on less than three (3) persons. The terms of office for a Director shall be one (1) year.

5.2 **Initial Directors.** The names and addresses of the initial Directors are:

Mr. Steve Jester
3520 S.E. M Cari Lane
Jensen Beach, Florida 34957

Mr. Fred Turnblacer
3937 S.E. Fairway East
Stuart, Florida 34997

Mrs. Renee Jester
3520 S.E. M Cari Lane
Jensen Beach, Florida 34957

Ms. Sherry Guffin
3585 S.W. Quail Meadow Trail
Palm City, Florida 34990

Ms. Mildred Wood
c/o 3370 N.E. West Court
Jensen Beach, Florida 34957

5.3 **Election of Directors.** The Board of Directors, by majority vote, shall elect persons to serve on the Board of Directors.

5.4 **Powers.** All powers exercisable by the Corporation are vested in the Board of Directors. The Directors may create such additional bodies within the Corporation and assign them such powers as the Directors deem appropriate. All such additional bodies shall serve at the pleasure of the Board of Directors. The creation of and assignment of powers to additional bodies shall be provided by the Board of Directors in the By-Laws.

5.5 **Removal.** A Director may be removed from the Board in accordance with the provisions of the By-Laws.

ARTICLE 6 BY-LAWS

6.1 **Adoption and Amendment.** The By-Laws of the Corporation may be adopted and amended by a two-thirds (2/3rds) vote of the Board of Directors.

6.2 **Limitation.** No By-Law shall be adopted or amended that would place the Corporation in violation of Article 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as it may be amended from time to time.

ARTICLE 7 NON-STOCK

7.1 **No Stock Issued.** The Corporation shall not issue stock nor any evidence of ownership of any interest in the Corporation.

ARTICLE 8 REGISTERED AGENT AND OFFICE

8.1 **Registered Office.** The initial registered agent office of the Corporation is 800 S.E. Monterey Commons Boulevard, Suite 200, Stuart, Florida 34996.

8.2 **Registered Agent.** The initial registered agent whose address is identical with the registered office given above is Kenneth A. Norman who is a member of the Florida Bar.

**ARTICLE 9
INCORPORATOR**

9.1 **Incorporator.** The name and street address of the incorporator signing these Articles of Incorporation is Kenneth A. Norman, 800 S.E. Monterey Commons Boulevard, Suite 200, Stuart, Florida 34996.

**ARTICLE 10
AMENDMENT OF ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION**

10.1 **Vote.** These Articles of Incorporation may be amended by a three-fourth (3/4th) vote of the Board of Directors except that Article 5.5 shall not be amended except by unanimous vote of the Directors.

10.2 **Limitation.** No amendment of these Articles shall be made in violation of Section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as it may be amended from time to time.


**ARTICLE 11
DISSOLUTION AND LIMITATION**

11.1 **Disposition of Assets.** In the event of dissolution, the residual assets of the organization will be turned over to one or more organizations which themselves are exempt as organizations described in Article 501(c) (3) or (c) (6) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or corresponding sections of any prior or future law, or to the Federal State or local Government for exclusive public purpose.

11.2 **Limitation on Activities.** Notwithstanding any other provisions of these Articles, this Corporation will not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on by: (a) a corporation exempt from Federal income tax under Article 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue law; or, (b) a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under Article 170(c) (2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or any corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue law.

11.3 **No Personal Inurement.** The assets of Corporation shall not inure to the personal benefit of any individual. This limitation shall not be construed to prevent fair payment for services actually rendered to the Corporation by any individual.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned hereto sets his hand and seal this 26th day of July, 1999.


Kenneth A. Norman, Incorporator

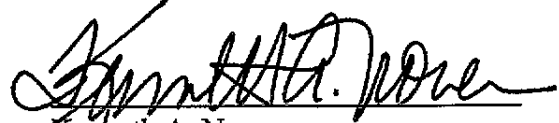
**CERTIFICATE DESIGNATING PLACE OF
BUSINESS OF DOMICILE FOR THE SERVICE
OF PROCESS WITHIN THIS STATE NAMING
AGENT UPON WHOM PROCESS MAY BE SERVED**

In pursuance of §§48.091(1) and 617.0501, Florida Statutes, the following is submitted in compliance thereof:

That THE NEXT STEP CENTER, INC., desiring to organize as a corporation under the laws of the State of Florida, with its initial registered office in Florida being in the County of Martin, at 800 S.E. Monterey Commons Boulevard, Suite 200, Stuart, Florida 34996 has named Kenneth A. Norman, located at that same address as its initial registered agent to accept service of process within this State.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

Having been named to accept service of process for the above-stated corporation, at the place designated in this certificate, I hereby agree to act in this capacity, and I further agree to comply with the provisions of all statutes relative to the proper and complete performance of my duties, and I accept the duties and obligations of Section 617.0501, Florida Statutes.


Kenneth A. Norman

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FILED
99 JUL 27 AM 11:46
CLERK OF STATE
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA