2013-J479

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 12th Anniversary of Gospel Assembly-Queens, celebrated on February 2, 2013

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize that the quality and character of life in the communities across New York State are reflective of the concerned and dedicated efforts of those organizations and individuals who would devote themselves to the welfare of the community and its citizenry; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its longstanding traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 12th Anniversary of Gospel Assembly-Queens, celebrated on Saturday, February 2, 2013, at Antun's Catering Hall in Queens Village, New York; and

WHEREAS, For over a decade, Gospel Assembly-Queens, a non-profit organization, has worked in collaboration with other associations, organizations and churches, contributing significantly to the development of the Queens community; and

WHEREAS, A valued member of its community, Gospel Assembly-Queens established and continues to maintain a food pantry program which serves over 5,000 families per month; it has also instituted a food delivery ministry facilitating needy home-bound individuals and families; and WHEREAS, Gospel Assembly-Queens operates numerous other community programs including a year-round-clothing drive, a seasonal holiday toy and gift drive, an immigration assimilation program, after school and summer programs, and a youth employment program; and WHEREAS, Gospel Assembly-Queens also administers a dynamic youth ministry, where guidance and counseling are provided with the objective of restricting the negative influences of drugs, alcohol and street violence, thereby helping youth focus on the positive aspects of life, such as self-esteem, mutual respect, and discipline; and WHEREAS, Aligned with an accredited academic institution, Gospel Assembly-Queens provides continuing academic support, guidance and supervision, giving the members of its church-community an opportunity to achieve post high school academic certificates and/or degrees to the Associate, Bachelor, Master's and even the Doctoral levels; and WHEREAS, Gospel Assembly-Queens ministers to inmates in prison, as well as to the sick in hospitals and nursing homes, the displaced in shelters, locally and out-of-state, and, recently, those affected by Hurricane Sandy; and

WHEREAS, Gospel Assembly-Queens' Pastor and Chaplain, Reverend Marc T. Pierre and his ministry have ably provided spiritual guidance and counseling, facilitating conflict resolutions and mediations, together with other community services; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when organizations of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our attention, they should be celebrated and recognized by all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 12th Anniversary of Gospel Assembly-Queens, celebrated on February 2, 2013; and be it further RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be tran-

smitted to Gospel Assembly-Queens, New York.