

2013-J4224

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Fazana Saleem-Ismail upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the Dreamer Award, to be celebrated at the Stakeholders' 2014 GOBY Awards Ceremony on April 23, 2014

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to call attention to the dedicated efforts of those individuals and organizations from across the State of New York who volunteer their time and energies in service to the community; and

WHEREAS, Volunteerism is an essential element of all societies; it provides a way in which the human values of community, caring and serving can be sustained and strengthened; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Fazana Saleem-Ismail upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the Dreamer Award, to be celebrated at the Stakeholders' 2014 GOBY Awards Ceremony on Wednesday, April 23, 2014, at the GE Theatre at Proctors, Schenectady, New York; and

WHEREAS, The GOBY Awards (Get on Board Volunteer Awards) recognize companies, organizations and individuals who have provided exemplary volunteer services in New York's Capital Region; and

WHEREAS, Fazana Saleem-Ismail is the founder of Jazzy Sun Birthdays, a non-profit organization that has been hosting personalized birthday parties for almost 100 children living in local homeless shelters since May of 2011; and

WHEREAS, Fazana Saleem-Ismail is a research scientist/training program evaluator at the Research Foundation of the State University of New York; originally from New York City, she worked for four years as a program officer at the Robin Hood Foundation, an organization that seeks to alleviate poverty in New York's five boroughs; and

WHEREAS, This remarkable woman was awarded the Community Capacity

Builders Award from the Neighborhood Technical Assistance Clinic in recognition of her impressive volunteer record; and

WHEREAS, Despite the demands of her career, Fazana Saleem-Ismail still considers motherhood her most important job; she serves as Parent Services Coordinator and Secretary of the PTO at AnNur Islamic School and is also a Girl Scout troop leader; and

WHEREAS, Fazana Saleem-Ismail was inspired by her two children to create Jazzy Sun Birthdays for disadvantaged children living in homeless shelters; this project born from the heart is named after them; and

WHEREAS, Volunteerism promotes family and community solidarity; most importantly, people who give of their time in civic and charitable endeavors inspire others to the call of volunteerism; and

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body that those who enhance the well-being and vitality of their community and have shown a long and sustained commitment to excellence certainly have earned the recognition and applause of all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Fazana Saleem-Ismail upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the Dreamer Award at the Stakeholder's 2014 GOBY Awards Ceremony on April 23, 2014; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Fazana Saleem-Ismail.