

## 2013-J4414

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Antonia Clemente upon the occasion of her designation for special recognition by the Ambassador for Christ International Outreach Ministry and Gateway Christian Center on Sunday, May 4, 2014

WHEREAS, it is incumbent upon the people of the State of New York to recognize and acknowledge those within our midst who have made significant contributions to the quality of life therein; and

WHEREAS, A great community is only as great as those persons who provide exemplary service, whether through participation in voluntary programs, through unique personal achievement in their profession or other endeavors, or simply through a lifetime of good citizenship; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Antonia Clemente upon the occasion of her designation for special recognition by the Ambassador for Christ International Outreach Ministry and Gateway Christian Center at its 4th Annual Pastors and Women of Distinction Appreciation Awards Gala on Sunday, May 4, 2014, at Floral Terrace, Floral Park, New York; and

WHEREAS, Antonia Clemente is being recognized for her exemplary work and commitment to her community, which serves to empower others; and

WHEREAS, Born and raised in Sunset Park, Brooklyn, Antonia Clemente is the Co-founder and Executive Director of The Healing Center, a not for profit community based agency dedicated to the intervention and prevention of family violence and abuse; and

WHEREAS, Antonia Clemente's leadership and activism roles began at an early age; she has more than four decades of experience working within the community to promote and develop academic enhancement projects for children, and has directed afterschool, adult education, and drop-out prevention programs; and

WHEREAS, In 2009, Antonia Clemente spearheaded a project called, The Daughters of the Lotus, for teenage girls who witness and are victimized by domestic violence in the home, and in response to the growing epidemic of teen dating violence; the program encourages positive self-image and goal development through creative activities and discussion in a comfortable and secure environment; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, under the luminous direction of Antonia Clemente, the first annual Teen Dating Violence Awareness Walk-a-thon took place on February 18, 2012 in New York; and

WHEREAS, As a member of Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Antonia Clemente has served on the Justice for Women Consulting Committee for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America; her work has been featured in the documentary films, "What Harm is it to be a Woman" and "I BELIEVE YOU: Faith's Response to Intimate Partner Violence"; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when a person of such noble aims and accomplishments is brought to our attention it is appropriate to publicly and jubilantly proclaim and commend that individual for the edification of others; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Antonia Clemente upon the occasion of her designation for special recognition by the Ambassador for Christ International Outreach Ministry and Gateway Christian Center on Sunday, May 4, 2014, noting her unremitting and compassionate faith and her exemplary service to God, man, and her community; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Antonia Clemente.