

2013-J4465

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Elaina F. Marra upon the occasion of her retirement from the Victims Assistance Center of Jefferson County

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, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Elaina F. Marra upon the occasion of her retirement from the Victims Assistance Center of Jefferson County; and

WHEREAS, In 1995, Elaina F. Marra joined what was then known as the Jefferson County Women's Center as Executive Director after serving as a school caseworker, psychiatric day treatment caseworker, and vocational rehabilitation counselor at Jefferson Rehabilitation Center; and

WHEREAS, Under her exemplary leadership, a comprehensive victims assistance program was established, providing residential and non-residential direct services to both victims and survivors of violence in Jefferson County; and

WHEREAS, Elaina F. Marra collaborated with local criminal justice and justice leaders to open satellite offices in the Jefferson County District Attorney's Office and the Jefferson County Court Complex, thus expanding much needed services for victims of violence; and

WHEREAS, In addition, by working with the Jefferson County District Attorney, local law enforcement, the probation department and Fort Drum emergency services, Elaina F. Marra established the Immediate Response Team Program, an effort which pairs Victims Assistance Center advocates with law enforcement officers at incidents of domestic violence and sexual assault; and

WHEREAS, Working with the community, Elaina F. Marra initiated the Child Advocacy Center in 2006, and more recently, in 2013, she oversaw

the development and building of a new shelter for victims of domestic violence and homelessness; and

WHEREAS, As a result of Elaina F. Marra's leadership and passion for helping others, the Victims Assistance Center of Jefferson County has come to be known as an important part of the North Country, serving countless people annually through a variety of services and providing employees as well as volunteers an opportunity to make a difference in the lives of others; and

WHEREAS, With a passion for serving others for nearly two decades, Elaina F. Marra puts serving others above all else, making a significant impact in the lives of countless victims of violence in the North Country; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Elaina F. Marra upon the occasion of her retirement from the Victims Assistance Center of Jefferson County; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Elaina F. Marra.