

2013-J4893

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring and congratulating HeartShare Human Services of New York upon the occasion of its 100th Anniversary Centennial Celebration

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and honor those groups and individuals who make an extraordinary positive difference in the lives of Empire State residents and their families, and HeartShare Human Services of New York is one such organization; and WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor and congratulate HeartShare Human Services of New York upon the occasion of its 100th Anniversary to be celebrated at its Annual Education Services Dinner on Thursday, May 22, 2014 and at another gala event on Saturday, July 12, 2014; and

WHEREAS, HeartShare Human Services of New York was founded in 1914, and has worked for an entire century to serve the needs of children and adults with developmental disabilities and to assist them in reaching their highest personal potential; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor HeartShare Human Services of New York as it celebrates 100 years of providing professional, compassionate, supportive programs and services to almost 29,000 children, adults and families; this organization is unparalleled in its commitment to the needs, concerns, dreams and aspirations of the people it serves with such dedication and heart; and

WHEREAS, HeartShare Human Services of New York offers an array of vital programs and services to children and adults with a variety of developmental disabilities in Brooklyn, Queens and Staten Island, including evaluation, early childhood centers, residential services, family support services, and adult day programs; and

WHEREAS, HeartShare Human Services of New York is deeply involved in serving adults and children diagnosed with autism spectrum disorders; it offers educational and therapeutic preschool services for children ages three through five through its First Step Early Childhood Centers; adult day services through its Partnering with Autistic Citizens (PACT) Day Habilitation Programs; and specializes in education for young people aged five through 21 in The HeartShare School; and

WHEREAS, HeartShare Human Services of New York also offers innovative initiatives which are designed to provide respite for caregivers while offering enjoyable social and community activities for people with autism through its Respite/Recreation Program and its Serving People with Autism (SPA) Overnight Respite Program; and

WHEREAS, In an effort to improve and safeguard the health and well-being of children, adults and families in its care, HeartShare Human Services of New York also provides assistance with foster care and adoption services; family service centers which work to help children and families in crisis stay together or be reunited; youth programs which offer after-school, summer camp and weekend recreational activities and social services, as well as supportive programs for children and families whose lives have been affected by HIV/AIDS; and

WHEREAS, It is virtually impossible to describe and pay adequate justice to the care, energy, skill and dedication exercised by the staff, administrators and leaders of HeartShare Human Services of New York who work hard every day with the intent of fulfilling their mission of service to children, adults and families in need; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of HeartShare Human Services of New

York, and to thank this exceptional organization for an entire century of caring for the people of New York City and the Empire State; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to HeartShare Human Services of New York.