

2013-J5553

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Barbra E. Minch upon the occasion of her retirement as President/CEO after 35 years of dedicated service to the William F. Ryan Community Health Network

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to acknowledge the significant milestones in the distinguished careers of esteemed residents of this noble Empire State; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Barbra E. Minch upon the occasion of her retirement as President/CEO after 35 years of dedicated service to the William F. Ryan Community Health Network; she will step down from this position effective June 27, 2014; and

WHEREAS, For the past 35 years, Barbra E. Minch has rendered exceptional and invaluable service to the William F. Ryan Community Health Network, (Ryan Network) a system of Community Health Centers in New York City that provides medically underserved New Yorkers with access to culturally-sensitive, high quality, affordable, primary, preventive, and specialty healthcare and supportive services; this laudable organization has, over its 46-year history, served all people, regardless of income, neighborhood, race, or language; and

WHEREAS, Committed to the principle, often expressed by the late Congressman William F. Ryan, that "healthcare is a right, not a privilege," Barbra E. Minch has worked tirelessly and fearlessly to assure the accessibility of affordable healthcare for millions of New York City residents; and

WHEREAS, Barbra E. Minch joined the William F. Ryan Community Health Center as an administrator in 1979; she became Deputy Director soon thereafter and, in 1995, was appointed Executive Director by the Board of Directors; in 2001, she was appointed President and CEO; and

WHEREAS, Barbra E. Minch led the development of the Ryan Network into one of the most reliable, patient-friendly and cost-efficient healthcare centers for uninsured and underinsured individuals in New York City; during her illustrious tenure, this accomplished woman increased the number of patients from 34,000 to more than 50,000 annually, and increased the number of Ryan Network healthcare sites from 10 to 17; and

WHEREAS, This far-sighted leader's vision led to the emergence of top-notch health care in local schools, as well as the creation of a fleet of mobile medical services that visit every neighborhood in New York City's five boroughs; through her negotiated agreement with Continuum Health Partners, now known as Mount Sinai Medical Center Health System, to train their internal medicine residents throughout the Ryan Network, she has helped ensure the development of a future generation of primary care physicians to serve some of New York State's most vulnerable residents; and

WHEREAS, Barbra E. Minch's exceptional work has resulted in national recognition; she is responsible for the Ryan Health Network gaining national accreditation from the Joint Commission, and Level 3 Medical Home status; and

WHEREAS, This accomplished woman has had an impact at the state and national levels as well; she played an integral role in helping to establish the Coalition to Preserve Access to Community-Based Health Care Providers, which set the stage for direct funding to Community Health Centers in New York State, and because of her fruitful participation in the Community Health Center movement, Barbra E. Minch was inducted into the National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC) Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, In her capacity as President/CEO of the William F. Ryan Community Health Network, Barbra E. Minch served with loyalty, honor and distinction, governed by a keen sense of mission, and always showing a unique grasp of human problems in her official acts; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the occurrence of such a blending of strength, leadership, intellect, compassion, and commitment as that demonstrated by Barbra E. Minch over a lifetime of sacrifice and dedication to others; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to congratulate Barbra E. Minch for her outstanding career of magnificent achievements on behalf of New Yorkers in need of health care, and to wish her a rewarding and well-earned retirement; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Barbra E. Minch.