

2013-J5587

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring the Healthy Environments and Relationships that Support Initiative upon the occasion of being selected to receive the 2014 University at Albany President's Award for Exemplary Community Engagement on April 25, 2014

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize that the quality and character of life in the communities across New York State are reflective of the concerned and dedicated efforts of those organizations and individuals who would devote themselves to the welfare of the community and its citizenry; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor the Healthy Environments and Relationships that Support Initiative convened by Dr. Heather Larkin, Associate Professor, School of Social Welfare, University at Albany, in partnership with the LaSalle School, St. Anne Institute, Prevent Child Abuse New York, St. Catherine's Center for Children, Troy Housing Authority, Parsons Child and Family Center/Northeast Parent and Child Society, Senior Hope, Center for Disability Services, Trinity Alliance of the Capital Region, Community Hospice, The WAIT House, Soldier's Hope, Interfaith Partnership for the Homeless, Homeless and Travelers' Aid Society, and Healthy Hearts on the Hill upon the occasion of being selected to receive the 2014 University at Albany President's Award for Exemplary Community Engagement, which was celebrated at an Award Ceremony at the University at Albany, Albany, New York; and

WHEREAS, This esteemed award honors University at Albany-community partnerships which are enhancing public well-being in the Capital Region and beyond; their community engagement is a collaboration between higher education institutions and external partners in the mutually beneficial

exchange of knowledge and resources to address areas of public need; and WHEREAS, The Healthy Environments and Relationships that Support (HEARTS) Initiative, involving both community-engaged research and service, directly connects practitioners in the community with emerging research; and

WHEREAS, The 16 aforementioned organizational partners work together to improve program and community responses to prevent and address adverse childhood experiences, and their costly health and social consequences; and

WHEREAS, Adverse childhood experiences are linked to high-cost risk behaviors later in life, including substance abuse, psychosocial problems, and biomedical diseases, among others; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Heather Larkin's work at the School of Social Welfare to co-develop a multidimensional intervention plan led to the HEARTS Initiative, which seeks to improve standards of care for children and adults; and

WHEREAS, Under the luminous direction of Dr. Heather Larkin, the initiative is one of the first instances of a large-scale collaboration among the region's social service providers; and

WHEREAS, It is the practice of this Legislative Body that when individuals and organizations of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our attention, they should be celebrated and recognized by all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor the Healthy Environments and Relationships that Support Initiative upon the occasion of being selected to receive the 2014 University at Albany President's Award for Exemplary Community Engagement on April 25, 2014; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Healthy Environments and Relationships that Support Initiative.