

## 2015-J1012

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Erica Sandoval upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the Outstanding Service Award by the Sickle Cell Thalassemia Patients Network

WHEREAS, It is the custom 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 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 Erica Sandoval upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the Outstanding Service Award by the Sickle Cell Thalassemia Patients Network to be celebrated at its 22nd Annual Woman of the Year Dinner Dance Benefit on Saturday, March 28, 2015, at the Grand Prospect Hall, Brooklyn, New York; and

WHEREAS, Since 1993, the Sickle Cell Thalassemia Patients Network (SCTPN) has recognized medical professionals and individuals who have dedicated themselves to improving the quality of life for people living with Sickle Cell Disease and Thalassemia; and

WHEREAS, Erica Sandoval received her Masters of Social Work degree from New York University's School of Social Work in 2011, and earned a Post Graduate certificate in Clinical Practice with Adolescents and family from NYU School of Social Work in 2014; and

WHEREAS, Committed to helping others, Erica Sandoval has worked with many diverse communities in various settings; her professional experience includes direct patient contact as a hospital-based social worker, group facilitator, and advocate for children diagnosed with a chronic illness; and

WHEREAS, As Program Coordinator for Charla de lupus/lupus chat Teen and Parent group, Erica Sandoval participated in numerous interdisciplinary committees to develop policies and best practice models for service within the pediatric rheumatology community; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, Erica Sandoval has led hospital-wide initiatives and has partnered with many community non-profits such as the Arthritis Foundation, Alliance for Lupus Research; she has also served as a member on the Board for the Arthritis Foundation Walk Committee; and

WHEREAS, A licensed social worker and therapist, Erica Sandoval has presented research at national conferences on innovative hospital based social work programming, as well as on integrating relevant psychosocial interventions and systems for hospital based multidisciplinary centers of excellence; and

WHEREAS, Currently, Erica Sandoval is the Director for Medical Outreach at Make-A-Wish Metro New York and Western New York; in this capacity, she manages relationships with medical facilities, community-based organizations, and continuing care clinics to help identify medically eligible children; and

WHEREAS, In fiscal year 2014, Erica Sandoval's outstanding work with the Medical Outreach Department has helped identify 96 children living with sickle cell disease, all of whom will be having their most heart-felt wishes granted; and

WHEREAS, Individuals such as Erica Sandoval, who have given so selflessly of their skills and dedication, have proven to be a great asset to the health and welfare of the citizens of the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that those who enhance the well-being and vitality of their community and have shown a long and sustained commitment to excellence certainly have earned the recognition and applause of all the citizens of this great Empire State;

now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to

honor Erica Sandoval upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the Outstanding Service Award by the Sickle Cell Thalassemia Patients Network; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Erica Sandoval.