

## 2015-J1311

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Daniel Fletcher upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the Dreamer Award by Orange AHRC on April 9, 2015

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 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 Daniel Fletcher upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the Dreamer Award by Orange AHRC to be celebrated on Thursday, April 9, 2015, at Anthony's Pier 9 in New Windsor, New York; and

WHEREAS, Founded in 1954, Orange AHRC provides services and housing to children and adults with developmental disabilities including those with autism spectrum disorder, Down syndrome, cerebral palsy, and intellectual and learning disorders; its mission is to assist people with disabilities in becoming respected and valued members of their communities; and

WHEREAS, Orange AHRC is focused on promoting community membership for adults with disabilities in three major areas: employment, volunteerism, and group affiliation; through active engagement in public life, the men and women supported by the agency gain both respect and visibility; and

WHEREAS, Daniel Fletcher has worked for many years in the retail and the food industry, holding a variety of positions at such companies as TJ's Baseball Shop and Denny's Restaurant; he has also attended Orange AHRC's day program and worked in the sheltered workshop at Campbell Hall for several years; and

WHEREAS, After officially retiring in 2013, Daniel Fletcher decided to

make key changes in his life; he began attending the Orange AHRC Community Builders Program which helps those in the Day Habilitation Program achieve true community inclusion through volunteerism; and

WHEREAS, In addition, Daniel Fletcher became highly active in the self-advocacy group which meets at Orange AHRC's Art Gallery in Middletown; currently, he serves as President of the Community Builders/Campbell Hall Self-Advocacy group; and

WHEREAS, While volunteering at Horton Hospital, Daniel Fletcher had a strong desire to be on the radio; he was introduced to the world of radio with the help of Orange AHRC professionals and members of the community, and found a way for his voice to be heard, fulfilling his ultimate dream; and

WHEREAS, Daniel Fletcher has been married for almost 20 years and resides with his wife in a residential apartment in Montgomery, New York; the two are very happy being able to make their own life decisions, and are thankful for the services offered by Orange AHRC; 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 Daniel Fletcher upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the Dreamer Award by the Orange AHRC; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Daniel Fletcher.