

## 2015-K723

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 50th Anniversary of Coarc, the Columbia County Chapter of NYSARC, Inc. on June 20, 2015

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize that the quality and character of life in the communities of New York State are reflective of the concerned and dedicated efforts of organizations and individuals who devote themselves to the welfare of the community and its citizenry and have made strong contributions to the disability community; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of Coarc, the Columbia County Chapter of NYSARC, Inc. to be feted with a celebration on Saturday, June 20, 2015, at the Chatham Fairgrounds, Chatham, New York; and

WHEREAS, Since 1965, Coarc has been an advocate and resource in Columbia County for individuals who experience disabilities, and their families; this vital organization provides comprehensive services to children and adults, both in the community and at more than 20 Coarc locations; and

WHEREAS, The services offered at Coarc are as diverse as the people it supports, including employment programs where job coaches assist individuals in acquiring and maintaining interesting jobs in the local community; in addition, Coarc has two fully ISO certified Coarc Contract Manufacturing facilities which employ workers who experience disabilities, as well as employees without disabilities; and

WHEREAS, Residential services are also available; Coarc Direct Support professionals promote independence and support people with their daily in-the-home needs; and

WHEREAS, Individuals can also get help finding their way through disa-

bility services from a Coarc attorney and social worker; Coarc Advocacy and Legal Services are available to anyone with a disability who lives in Columbia County; and

WHEREAS, Coarc can assist people with understanding estate planning, Medicaid, Social Security, and other public benefits, and arrange legal guardianship; their lawyers can represent a person with a disability in family or criminal court, as well as landlord and tenant disputes or uncontested divorce; and

WHEREAS, Coarc Advocacy and Legal Services promote special education by providing legal counseling and community education regarding the rights of people with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, Currently, Coarc supports over 500 individuals experiencing disabilities, and employs over 400 staff members, whose involvement is, and always has been, characterized by an impressive commitment, an unbridled enthusiasm, and an uncompromising standard of excellence in all endeavors on behalf of the institution and the community it serves; and

WHEREAS, Coarc is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors, most of whom are parents or relatives of a person with a developmental disability; the remaining board members are community leaders whose insight and experience provide assistance and direction to ensure Coarc is integrated into the community; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that those organizations which 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 commemorate the 50th Anniversary of Coarc, the Columbia County Chapter of NYSARC, Inc. on June 20, 2015; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be tran-

mitted to Coarc, the Columbia County Chapter of NYSARC, Inc.