

## 2015-J3414

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring the GLOW YMCA Challenger Sports Program upon the occasion of its designation as recipient of the 2015 Special Community Service Recognition of the Year Award by the Genesee County Chamber of Commerce

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 enhanced by the concerned and dedicated efforts of business organizations and individuals that generously contribute 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 GLOW YMCA Challenger Sports Program upon the occasion of its designation as recipient of the 2015 Special Community Service Recognition of the Year Award by the Genesee County Chamber of Commerce to be celebrated at an Awards Ceremony on Saturday, March 5, 2016, at Batavia Clarion Hotel, Batavia, New York; and

WHEREAS, The staff and volunteers at the GLOW YMCA strive to develop the spiritual, mental and physical wellness of all people in an atmosphere of Christian fellowship; and

WHEREAS, This vital organization is a place where individuals can find respite from social, economic and educational challenges, and learn how to overcome them; the GLOW YMCA has a fundamental desire to provide opportunities for every family to build stronger bonds, achieve greater work/life balance, and become more engaged with their communities; and

WHEREAS, Programs and services at the GLOW YMCA offer families a wide range of activities for all ages designed for fun in a safe, supportive and healthy environment; and

WHEREAS, The GLOW YMCA Challenger Sports Program was started by a

loving mother in 2006; open for boys and girls ages 5 to 21, this vital program is a collaborative effort between the YMCA, Genesee ARC, NYS School for the Blind, Genesee Valley BOCES, Batavia Minor League Baseball, and Batavia Youth Bureau; and

WHEREAS, During each session, enthusiastic local volunteers work with children to develop skills which transcend sports, some of which are development of human relation skills, fine motor movements, and teamwork; and

WHEREAS, Many young men and women from the neighborhood high schools enjoy serving as assistants; the partnership of the volunteers helping participants has created and fostered new friendships and relationships that are still ongoing; it has influenced college and career decisions, and has also opened the eyes for these volunteers to look differently upon people with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, For the past 10 years, the GLOW YMCA Challenger Sports Program has offered young people many opportunities to learn and play many different sports during the year including baseball, tennis, soccer, and dance, as well as swimming; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when 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 GLOW YMCA Challenger Sports Program upon the occasion of its designation as recipient of the 2015 Special Community Service Recognition of the Year Award by the Genesee County Chamber of Commerce; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Rob Walker, GLOW YMCA, and Shelly Falitico, Genesee ARC.