

2015-J4947

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending the Evans family upon the occasion of completing a cross country run on August 31, 2015, in support of Ainsley's Angels of America

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that individuals with disabilities merit our recognition as they realize goals that serve to lift barriers and expand choices for all persons with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend the Evans family upon the occasion of completing a cross country run on Monday, August 31, 2015, in support of Ainsley's Angels of America; and

WHEREAS, The Evans family, which includes Shaun, and his wife, Nichole, and their two sons, Shamus and Simon, reside in Galway, New York; and

WHEREAS, An avid ultra-marathon runner, Shaun Evans wanted to involve Shamus, who has limited mobility due to cerebral palsy, into the running world; and

WHEREAS, With the help of Ainsley's Angels of America, a group that works to include children with special needs in endurance events, Shamus Evans was able to obtain a running chariot which enabled him to participate in running events and races with his father; in November of 2013,

Shaun and Shamus Evans won a 45-mile ultra-marathon together; and

WHEREAS, Soon thereafter, Shamus Evans began asking his father when they could complete a cross country run, and nearly two years later, his dream has become a reality; on July 4, 2015, Shaun and Shamus, as well as Nichole and Simon, embarked on a 3,186-mile run across the United States; and

WHEREAS, This momentous undertaking began in Seattle, Washington, and ended in New York City on August 31, 2015; Shaun Evans pushed his son in

his chariot nearly the entire time, and Nichole and Simon Evans cheered them on the whole way; this amazing family averaged more than 50 miles a day for 53 days straight; and

WHEREAS, As if completing an ultra-marathon a day for approximately two months was not enough, the Evans family turned their journey into an incredible mission; the family raised both awareness and significant funds to support Ainsley's Angels of America; in addition, they also donated several racing wheelchairs to children with disabilities around the country; and

WHEREAS, It is the practice of this Legislative Body to recognize and pay just tribute to those citizens who embody the true American spirit, demonstrating personal courage and determination, and significantly contributing to the enhancement of the quality of life of others; and

WHEREAS, It is the intent of this Legislative Body that when individuals of such enduring courage and accomplishment are brought to our attention, it is appropriate to publicly proclaim and commend those individuals for the edification and emulation of others; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend the Evans family upon the occasion of completing a cross country run in support of Ainsley's Angels of America on August 31, 2015; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Evans family.