

## 2015-J5965

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Rolanda Telesford upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the Full Faith Impact Achievement Award by the Full Faith Christian Center on May 22, 2016

WHEREAS, The spiritual guidance and nurturing of the citizens of the State of New York is of great importance to the vitality and well-being of our communities; and

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to bring full recognition and just tribute to those men and women of religious commitment who accept the responsibility of moral leadership and render the wisdom of human understanding; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Rolanda Telesford upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the Full Faith Impact Achievement Award by the Full Faith Christian Center, celebrated at its Annual Eagle Nest Leadership Conference on Sunday, May 22, 2016; and

WHEREAS, The Eagle Nest Leadership Conference is geared towards building up, training and equipping all those who are called to the Ministry of Helps and the fivefold Ministry: Apostle, Evangelist, Teacher, Pastor and Prophet; and

WHEREAS, Rolanda Telesford received this auspicious award for her devotion to her church and sincere dedication and substantial role as a community leader; she has continuously cast a positive impact on her community and displayed an unbridled enthusiasm in all her professional and spiritual endeavors; and

WHEREAS, Ever since her life was spared during the tragic events of 9/11, Rolanda Telesford has committed herself to bettering her community; and

WHEREAS, With a desire to assist in the needs of her surrounding underserved populated neighborhoods, Rolanda Telesford started a home childcare business to assist low income working mothers and families that could not otherwise afford inexpensive quality childcare for their children; and

WHEREAS, As one of the dynamic leaders of Mt. Zion Pentecostal Holiness Church, Rolanda Telesford currently holds the positions of both President of the Pastors Aide Board and Worship Leader; in addition, she has worked as a Project Manager on several community projects such as the development of a food pantry, which has been successful in feeding the homeless, various youth summits and back to school festival which provides valuable resources on finance, college, and educational programming; and

WHEREAS, This remarkable woman developed and implemented the first Community Festival in Thomas Boyland Park, Brooklyn, New York, the poorest neighborhood in Brooklyn; she was also the first to collaborate with the Tillary Park Foundation to hold its first community festival focusing on today's youth; and

WHEREAS, For over 15 years, Rolanda Telesford has devoted her time and energy to working with women and families; today, she holds the title of Director of Communications and External Relations at the Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA), the largest and oldest women's organization in the United States; and

WHEREAS, In this role, Rolanda Telesford strives to ensure the YWCA's mission of eliminating racism and empowering women and girls, and diligently works to provide programs in her local community, New York State and all over the world; and

WHEREAS, As an agent of change, Rolanda Telesford has led and implemented many initiatives within not only Brooklyn, but the entire State of New York; in 2015, she created and produced the Touch of Purple Campaign, which was implemented before the Annual Week Without Violence,

which is held each year during the 3rd week in October; this noble event supports victims of domestic violence in communities around the country; and

WHEREAS, Mostly recently, Rolanda Telesford introduced Stand Against Racism, a campaign designed to build communities among those who work for racial justice and raise awareness about the negative impact of institutional and structural racism; and

WHEREAS, This year, Rolanda Telesford produced and conducted a cultivating interview with the Borough President of Brooklyn, and Former President and Co-Founder of 100 Black Police in Law Enforcement, Eric Adams; together, they implemented Stand against Racism Day in Brooklyn on May 2, 2016; and

WHEREAS, Singular in distinction is Rolanda Telesford, whose service to her church and her people, and her involvement in her community mirror a commitment of compelling dimension; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when a person of such noble aims and accomplishments is brought to our attention, it is appropriate to publicly and jubilantly proclaim and commend that individual for the edification of others; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Rolanda Telesford upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the Full Faith Impact Achievement Award by the Full Faith Christian Center on May 22, 2016; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Rolanda Telesford.