

2017-J3970

Senate Resolution No. 3970

BY: Senator KENNEDY

COMMEMORATING the 50th Anniversary of Crisis
Services

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to commend those illustrious organizations of the State of New York whose focus and intent have made a substantial impact on the quality of life in their communities; 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 Crisis Services; and

WHEREAS, Suicide Prevention and Crisis Service, Inc. began its operations in November of 1968, after two years of strategic planning conducted by stakeholders from the Mental Health Association, the Psychological Association of WNY, the Community Welfare Council, and the Erie County Department of Mental Health; and

WHEREAS, Although this vital organization began as a suicide prevention hotline, Crisis Services now assists with other traumatic events such as domestic violence, rape crisis calls, elder abuse, and general support; and

WHEREAS, Crisis Services is a truly innovative unit which explores

new methods of treating people in emotional crisis, providing training and education programs for workers, and building a comprehensive body of research on best practices for crisis support; and

WHEREAS, The most comprehensive crisis center in Upstate New York, Crisis Services of Erie County offers essential services to the community including a 24 hour hotline, emergency mobile outreach, trauma response, and the advocate program; and

WHEREAS, Under the able leadership of its CEO Jessica Pirro, Crisis Services hosted and organized a 26-episode podcast series which outlines how crisis services interacts with issues in the community; these programs are provided by both full and part-time staff, as well as the support of 75 professionally trained volunteers; and

WHEREAS, In 2017, Crisis Services' staff members and volunteers tirelessly assisted 98,834 individuals in crisis through their various hotlines and crisis response services; and

WHEREAS, Today, Crisis Services manages the Suicide Prevention Coalition for Erie County and is one of the founding partners of the Erie County Anti-Stigma Coalition, an organization working to end the stigma surrounding mental illness; and

WHEREAS, The success of Crisis Services is in direct correlation to the efforts of its staff and volunteers, 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 organization and the community it serves; and

WHEREAS, This auspicious occasion presents an opportunity for this

Legislative Body to recognize and pay tribute to Crisis Services; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when individuals and 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 commemorate the 50th Anniversary of Crisis Services; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Crisis Services, Buffalo, New York.