

## 2017-J4033

Senate Resolution No. 4033

BY: Senator AVELLA

COMMEMORATING the 40th Anniversary of the YWCA of Queens

WHEREAS, From time to time, society calls upon individuals and organizations to be recognized for the significance of their contributions and efforts to assist others in developing the skills necessary to be successful, productive citizens; and

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 reflective of the concerned and dedicated efforts of those organizations and individuals who would devote themselves 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 commemorate the 40th Anniversary of the YWCA of Queens, to be celebrated with a Gala on April 19, 2018, at Terrace on the Park, Flushing, New York; and

WHEREAS, The Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA) is one of the oldest and largest women's organizations in the nation, serving more than two million women, girls and their families; and

WHEREAS, Staying true to its mission of eliminating racism, empowering women and promoting peace, justice, dignity and freedom for all, the YWCA of Queens is part of a national and international movement working to advance the quality of life for women and their families; and

WHEREAS, The YWCA of Queens was originally conceived by nine immigrant women in 1978, after a hungry Korean immigrant latchkey child, waiting for his mother to come home from work, attempted to cook and accidentally set fire to their kitchen; and

WHEREAS, Officially established as the Flushing branch of the YWCA of New York City, its founders initially provided child care, as well as ESL and Senior Services; and

WHEREAS, This vital organization opened its current facility in 1995, and incorporated as the YWCA of Queens in 2003; and

WHEREAS, Today, the YWCA of Queens is recognized as an influential non-profit organization which meets the needs of low-income individuals and immigrants in one of the most diverse cities in the world; and

WHEREAS, The YWCA of Queens now serves more than 5,000 families annually through its multi-generational and cross-cultural services; and

WHEREAS, With a goal to address the diverse needs of Queens residents, the YWCA of Queens stands as a beacon in the communities it serves, offering integral services to encourage educational, economic and personal well-being; and

WHEREAS, Over its distinguished 40-year history, the YWCA of Queens has demonstrated continuous service to the residents and communities which it serves; and

WHEREAS, The success of the YWCA of Queens is in direct correlation to the efforts of its staff, 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 the YWCA of Queens; 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 citizens of the great State of New York; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 40th Anniversary of the YWCA of Queens; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the YWCA of Queens, New York.