

## 2009-K860

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring the YWCA of Binghamton and Broome County upon the occasion of receiving the 2009 Residence of the Year from the Supportive Housing Network of New York

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to commend those illustrious organizations within 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 honor the YWCA of Binghamton and Broome County upon the occasion of receiving the 2009 Residence of the Year from the Supportive Housing Network of New York; and

WHEREAS, Dating from 1892, the YWCA of Binghamton and Broome County has had a long history and presence in the community as a provider of invaluable assistance to women and their families in the Southern Tier area of New York State; and

WHEREAS, Built in the heart of Binghamton in 1908, the YWCA of Binghamton and Broome County building was transformed from a decaying refuge in dire need of attention into a model showcase for supportive housing in the region with comprehensive on-site services; and

WHEREAS, While the building exterior was historically restored, the design of the interior was entirely reconfigured to accommodate a new housing plan, common areas, childcare facilities, and offices, all whilst the YWCA of Binghamton and Broome County was operating; and

WHEREAS, This major overhaul saw the interior changed from dormitory style accommodations, which dated back to the original function of the YWCA of Binghamton and Broome County building as a hotel, to 54 apartments with full bathrooms and kitchens designed to accommodate women with children; each floor has a comfortable and inviting lounge providing residents a place to relax, watch television and participate in group activities; and

WHEREAS, There is also space at the renovated YWCA of Binghamton and Broome County building for six special needs programs, an emergency

shelter, two transitional living programs and three permanent supportive programs; and

WHEREAS, Strategically located throughout the five upper floors of fully integrated housing are the staff offices of the YWCA of Binghamton and Broome County, allowing residents access to resources such as counselors, case managers and resident assistants; and

WHEREAS, In addition, the YWCA of Binghamton and Broome County has a computer lab available with access to technology supporting the residents in their goals for self sufficiency, job readiness and retention, as well as an on-site fitness program complete with pool and yoga room, and a licensed day care program; and

WHEREAS, The success enjoyed by the YWCA of Binghamton and Broome County is in direct correlation to the efforts of the many individuals who have supported the development of this illustrious organization over the years; and

WHEREAS, Equally commendable are the superbly skilled staff of the YWCA of Binghamton and Broome County, whose involvement is and has always been characterized by an impressive commitment, an unbridled enthusiasm, and an uncompromising standard of excellence in all of their efforts on behalf of the organization and the population it serves; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when organizations of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our atten-

tion, they should be celebrated and recognized by all the citizens of the great State of New York; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor the YWCA of Binghamton and Broome County upon the occasion of receiving the 2009 Residence of the Year from the Supportive Housing Network of New York, fully confident that it will continue to enjoy the sparkling success which has so characterized its past; and be it further RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the YWCA of Binghamton and Broome County.