

## 2011-J1247

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Susan Kaufman upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the Woman of the Year Award by Reaching-Out Community Services on April 28, 2011

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize those individuals of preeminent character whose lives exemplify the highest ideals of humanity and whose lifework and civic endeavor serve to enhance the quality of life in their communities and the great State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Susan Kaufman upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the Woman of the Year Award by Reaching-Out Community Services to be celebrated at its Annual Dinner and Gala at Rex Manor in Brooklyn, New York, on Thursday, April 28, 2011; and

WHEREAS, A woman of singular distinction, Susan Kaufman has continually demonstrated extreme competence, extraordinary intelligence and diligent leadership in her unwavering service to her community and profession and consequently has been designated for this most prestigious award; and

WHEREAS, A practicing real estate lawyer in New York City, Susan Kaufman founded The Animal Relief Fund (ARF!) in November of 2008, in response to the crisis faced by New York pet-owners dealing with financial difficulties; and

WHEREAS, ARF!'s approach is to help people before they give up their pets; it began by distributing pet food directly to six food pantries in Manhattan, Brooklyn, Queens and Staten Island; as the organization has grown, and donations of food have become larger and more frequent, ARF! has turned to the Food Bank For New York City, which distributes food to hundreds of food pantries to distribute bulk donations of pet food; and

WHEREAS, In the spring of 2010, Susan Kaufman was instrumental in conducting New York City's first-ever pet food drive benefiting Food Bank For New York City with both a virtual food drive and a network of local pet food stores collecting food; and

WHEREAS, With her throughout have been her husband, Peter Fischbein, their son Scott, and their Boston Terrier, Rex, all of whom feel privileged to be part of her life and rejoice in her achievements; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the occurrence of such a compassionate blending of strength, intellect and commitment as that demonstrated by Susan Kaufman over a lifetime of sacrifice and dedication to others; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that those who enhance the well-being and vitality of their community and have shown a long and sustained commitment to excellence certainly have earned the recognition and applause of all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Susan Kaufman upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the Woman of the Year Award by Reaching-Out Community Services on April 28, 2011; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Susan Kaufman.