

## **2015-J61**

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Peggy O'Shea upon the occasion of her retirement after nine years of distinguished service as President/CEO of the Community Foundation of Herkimer and Oneida Counties

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body seeks to acknowledge those individuals whose professional lives and civic endeavors serve to enhance the stature of the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is proud to honor Peggy O'Shea upon the occasion of her retirement after nine years of distinguished service as Foundation President/CEO of the Community Foundation of Herkimer and Oneida Counties; she officially retired on December 31, 2014; and

WHEREAS, Peggy O'Shea earned her bachelor's degree from SUNYIT in Utica, New York; she also completed the University of Wisconsin's Certification Program for Excellence in Not-for-Profit Management, and the Indiana University School of Philanthropy's Certificate Program in Fundraising, as well as the Council on Foundations Program on Community Foundation Leadership; and

WHEREAS, Since 2000, Peggy O'Shea has been employed with the Community Foundation; she served as Senior Program Officer before she was promoted to President and CEO in 2005; and

WHEREAS, Under Peggy O'Shea's able leadership, the Foundation transitioned from responsive grant maker to social impact investor; she also earned the Council on Foundations' National Standards for United States Community Foundations, the most rigorous standard for philanthropy; and

WHEREAS, Throughout her tenure, Peggy O'Shea led the Foundation to become more data-driven; she also spearheaded the formation of both the Literacy Coalition and the Annual Speaker Series; in addition, she more than doubled the organization's assets; and

WHEREAS, This exceptional woman is committed to bringing people from all backgrounds together around important community issues including school readiness, college access, and literacy; and

WHEREAS, Peggy O'Shea has received numerous awards and accolades for her support and advocacy of education in her community including the

Dream Maker Award by On Point for College for her commitment to advancing access to college for area residents; recently, she was recognized by the NAACP for her years of service and commitment to the association; and

WHEREAS, Active in her community, Peggy O'Shea previously served on the board of Funders Alliance of Upstate New York, the Sagamore Institute of the Adirondacks, and was former president of the Hospice Foundation Board; currently, she is a member of the Excellus BlueCross BlueShield Advisory Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, In her capacity as President/CEO of the Community Foundation of Herkimer and Oneida Counties, Peggy O'Shea served with loyalty, honor and distinction, and earned the admiration, esteem and affection of her colleagues; and

WHEREAS, In her official acts, Peggy O'Shea was governed by a keen sense of duty and always showed a unique grasp of human problems; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the impressive dedication shown by an individual for the benefit of others which Peggy O'Shea has displayed throughout her life; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Peggy O'Shea upon the occasion of her retirement after nine years of distinguished service as President/CEO of the Community Foundation of Herkimer and Oneida Counties; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Peggy O'Shea.