

## 2015-J1071

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Patrick J. Clarke upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the 2015 Dr. Catherine White Achievement Award by HeartShare Human Services of New York

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to acknowledge outstanding individuals whose professional lives, personal endeavors, and community service are an example and inspiration to their colleagues, friends, and family; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Patrick J. Clarke upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the 2015 Dr. Catherine White Achievement Award by HeartShare Human Services of New York to be celebrated at its Spring Gala and Auction on Thursday, March 26, 2015, at the New York Marriott Marquis in New York City; and

WHEREAS, The mission of HeartShare Human Services of New York is to nurture and support, with dignity and respect, children, adults, and families in order to expand opportunities and enhance lives; and

WHEREAS, Patrick J. Clarke is receiving this auspicious award for his devotion to his profession and sincere dedication and substantial role as a community leader; he has continuously cast a positive impact on his community and displayed an unbridled enthusiasm in all his professional and civic endeavors; and

WHEREAS, Patrick J. Clarke was born and raised in Galbally, County Tyrone, Ireland, to Patrick and Roseanne Clarke; as he watched the civil rights movement and the work of Martin Luther King, Jr. in the United States, he internalized the reality of living in an occupied Ireland; Patrick was given the opportunity to settle in the Bronx in 1971, where he resides today; and

WHEREAS, After living in New York for two years, Patrick J. Clarke realized, through perseverance and determination, he could live the American dream and open his own business; and

WHEREAS, Patrick J. Clarke worked extremely hard to build his construction business while planting roots in New York; in 1976, he married and raised four children, Patrick, Barry, Christine, and Alan; and

WHEREAS, Although his success grew in America, Patrick J. Clarke never forgot where he came from and the hardships he faced; with those memories, he developed a passion for giving back to both the American and Irish communities, extending his charitable endeavors in the United States and overseas; and

WHEREAS, Through his open door policy at home and work, Patrick J. Clarke changed the lives of many families and individuals who needed help; his philanthropic efforts benefited numerous individuals and organizations such as young entrepreneurs, the Wounded Warrior Project, American Red Cross, St. Jude's Hospital, and PAL; and

WHEREAS, Patrick J. Clarke's love and respect for the younger generation inspired him to help build an orphanage in the Philippines, in addition to supporting many other children's organizations; and

WHEREAS, Today, Patrick J. Clarke relishes working side by side with his two sons who have joined him in expanding the family construction business and real estate interests; and

WHEREAS, In addition to being the loving father of four children, Patrick J. Clarke is the proud grandfather of five grandchildren, Ashley, Colin, Braeden, Patrick, and Roseanne; 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 Patrick J. Clarke upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the 2015 Dr. Catherine White Achievement Award by HeartShare Human Services of New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Patrick J. Clarke.