

## 2015-J1178

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the Cayuga/Seneca Community Action Agency

WHEREAS, It is the sense 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 that are devoted 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 50th Anniversary of the Cayuga/Seneca Community Action Agency; and

WHEREAS, In 1964, President Lyndon B. Johnson and the United States Congress enacted into law the Economic Opportunity Act (EOA) and the "War on Poverty" was declared; and

WHEREAS, The Act established the Office of Economic Opportunity, which was part of the executive branch of government and reported directly to the President; within the next two years, more than 1,600 community action programs opened throughout the nation; and

WHEREAS, The Cayuga/Seneca Community Action Agency (CSCAA) was established in 1965 to fight the war against poverty locally; and

WHEREAS, Remaining true to its mission, the Cayuga/Seneca Community Action Agency respectfully assists people to achieve and sustain self-sufficiency through direct services, education and community partnerships; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, over the past 50 years, the agency has gained a positive reputation throughout the local community for advocating the rights of economically challenged families and individuals as well as changing society's stereotypes regarding poverty; and

WHEREAS, Workforce development is deeply rooted in the agency's anti-poverty culture; on July 9, 1969, the "Open Door Training Employment Program" was created, the premise of which was to supply local businesses with qualified, reliable employees from among the county's pool of unemployed and underemployed population; and

WHEREAS, Over the last half a century, the Cayuga/Seneca Community Action Agency has grown from an operating committee with no paid staff and limited scope of service to the organization it is today, administering more than a dozen anti-poverty and self-sufficiency programs in two counties with over 120 staff and 550 avid volunteers; and

WHEREAS, The Cayuga/Seneca Community Action Agency remains resilient in its response to the fluctuating community needs among shifting socio-economic and political landscapes; its vital programs connect people in poverty to gainful employment opportunities, enabling them to achieve economic security; and

WHEREAS, The success of the Cayuga/Seneca Community Action Agency is in direct correlation to the efforts of its staff and volunteers, 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 Cayuga/Seneca Community Action Agency; 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 recognized and applauded by all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the Cayuga/Seneca Community Action Agency; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Cayuga/Seneca Community Action Agency.