

## 2015-J1313

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Cheri Magadanz upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the Dream Catcher Award by Orange AHRC on April 9, 2015

WHEREAS, It is the custom 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 who would devote themselves 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 honor Cheri Magadanz upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the Dream Catcher Award by Orange AHRC to be celebrated on Thursday, April 9, 2015, at Anthony's Pier 9 in New Windsor, New York; and

WHEREAS, Founded in 1954, Orange AHRC provides services and housing to children and adults with developmental disabilities including those with autism spectrum disorder, Down syndrome, cerebral palsy, and intellectual and learning disorders; its mission is to assist people with disabilities in becoming respected and valued members of their communities; and

WHEREAS, Orange AHRC is focused on promoting community membership for adults with disabilities in three major areas: employment, volunteerism, and group affiliation; through active engagement in public life, the men and women supported by the agency gain both respect and visibility; and

WHEREAS, Cheri Magadanz has provided outstanding service to Orange AHRC for 15 years in a variety of different programs including education, residential and day service programs; she currently works with the Community Builders Program and the Self-Advocacy Group; and

WHEREAS, Dedicated to helping others, Cheri Magadanz carefully listens to those in her care and encourages them to challenge themselves and

strive for meaningful and unique opportunities to fulfill their dreams;  
and

WHEREAS, This remarkable woman has been instrumental in helping a local man with special needs realize his dream of being on the radio; she helped him brainstorm ideas, and contacted a local DeeJay to set up a tour with a radio station; this was the beginning of a very productive relationship for everyone involved; and

WHEREAS, In addition, Cheri Magadanz has been a mentor to others, and has made significant contributions to Orange AHRC in such areas as the interview process of job applicants, staff training, and being CQL committee members; and

WHEREAS, An outstanding advocate for all people and a wonderful role model for staff, Cheri Magadanz is a talented and creative person with an ability to break down barriers; she has helped many people achieve their ambitions, while always ensuring the spotlight remains on 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 Cheri Magadanz upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the Dream Catcher Award by the Orange AHRC; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Cheri Magadanz.