

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending Abilities First Inc. upon the occasion of the kick off of its Love Our Kids campaign, on June 7, 2013

WHEREAS, It is the practice 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, It is also the sense of this Legislative Body that individuals with disabilities merit our recognition as they realize goals that serve to lift barriers and expand choices for all persons with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concerns, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Abilities First Inc. upon the occasion of the kick off of its Love Our Kids campaign; a Dancing and Drumming Flash Mob launch event will take place on Friday, June 7, 2013, at the Poughkeepsie Galleria Mall; and

WHEREAS, Abilities First Inc. provides educational, vocational, and residential services to more than 1,200 people with disabilities in the Hudson Valley; for more than 50 years, the organization has provided a cohesive culture of warmth, acceptance, and empowerment for individuals with a variety of disabilities, at every age and stage; and

WHEREAS, The Love Our Kids campaign is designed to provide a platform for families of children with special needs to share their milestones with the broader community via social media in an effort to raise awareness about the challenges and victories that these families experience every day, all year long; and

WHEREAS, The kick off event, the Dancing and Drumming Flash Mob choreographed by NP Productions, will feature youth from Abilities First programs; the Flash Mob will be recorded and posted online to be shared by the Abilities First community; and

WHEREAS, After the Flash Mob is posted, Abilities First families will have the opportunity to share their stories of milestones reached and victories via email for posting on the Abilities First blog, Facebook and Twitter sites, and, in so doing, fostering greater understanding of the lives of people with disabilities, and garnering community support; and

WHEREAS, Some of the stories shared during the Love Our Kids campaign will be gathered in an inspirational eBook to be published in 2014, further promoting awareness while also building support for Abilities First innovative programs; and

WHEREAS, Those organizations that 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 commend Abilities First Inc. upon the occasion of the kick off of its Love Our Kids campaign; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Abilities First Inc.