

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 25th Anniversary of Partners in Learning, Inc.

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body of the State of New York to pay tribute to those organizations within our community, and those who run them, that add to the quality of life for all our residents, and to recognize the contributions such organizations make to our society; and

WHEREAS, Primary among those organizations are not-for-profit organizations which, year after year, are responsive to the specific needs of the local citizenry by providing essential services such as educational, cultural, training and employment programs, literacy classes, and a modern learning environment; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Partners in Learning, Inc. upon the occasion of 25 years of service to the Syracuse community; and

WHEREAS, Partners in Learning, Inc. founded in 1989 in collaboration with the Syracuse City School District, began when Theresa Pagano, a Spanish teacher and mother in the community, visited a Latino outreach program in Chicago and realized the need for a similar program in the City of Syracuse; and

WHEREAS, Prior to the start of Partners in Learning, Inc., less than 10 Latino children in the City of Syracuse were involved in an early childhood education program; and

WHEREAS, The mission of Partners in Learning, Inc. is to support adults, children and families from diverse cultures and languages in establishing themselves to become integral members of their community; and

WHEREAS, Partners in Learning, Inc. began with "MANOS" which was created to foster English-language learning and stimulate physical, emotional, and cognitive growth in children ages birth to five years old; and

WHEREAS, In 2013, the "MANOS" program had 72 participants, and 100% of the students in the program entered kindergarten; and

WHEREAS, In addition to "MANOS," Partners in Learning, Inc. also offers adult courses at the West Side Learning Center, "Volunteers in Action," which provides college students the opportunity to serve the community, and "Cross Cultural Connections," which provides training for public and private sector employees; and

WHEREAS, Partners in Learning, Inc. has a proven record of assisting parents, children and families in acquiring the skills needed to be productive workers, entrepreneurs, consumers, engaged citizens, and good neighbors; and

WHEREAS, Over the last 25 years, Partners in Learning, Inc. has been a warm friendly place where individuals are encouraged to grow personally, build connections and flourish as a person, in addition to receiving quality services and support; and

WHEREAS, Today, Partners in Learning, Inc. has over 500 participants and continues to expand, evolve and create new programs to meet the needs of the community such as "Families in Action," which focuses on families overcoming illiteracy together; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend the 25th Anniversary of Partners in Learning, Inc. with the hope that this not-for-profit continues to enjoy the sparkling successes it has experienced thus far; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Theresa Pagano, and to Partners in Learning, Inc.

