

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION congratulating the Korean American Family Service Center upon the occasion of celebrating its 24th Annual Benefit Gala on May 3, 2013

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 congratulate the Korean American Family Service Center upon the occasion of celebrating its 24th Annual Benefit Gala; this auspicious occasion will be held on Friday, May 3, 2013, at the Grand Hyatt Hotel in New York, New York; and

WHEREAS, Inspired by Dr. Tai Young Lee who founded the Legal Aid Center for Women in Korea, and founded in 1989, The Korean American Family Service Center (KAFSC) is a leading, nonprofit organization that supports and empowers adults, youth and children to lead safe and healthy lives based on dignity, compassion and mutual respect; and

WHEREAS, KAFSC is committed to preventing and ending domestic violence and relationship abuse, and creating a violence-free society; its counseling, education and advocacy programs for individuals and families in the New York Tri-State area are provided in a culturally and linguistically appropriate setting; and

WHEREAS, Since inception, KAFSC has worked tirelessly to promote healthy and respectful relationships within families and among peers of all ages; its programs include a 24-hour hotline and crisis intervention, counseling and support services for domestic violence; and

WHEREAS, In addition, KAFSC provides advocacy and education through community-wide workshops and public campaigns; its Hodori After School Program for children and YCPT, a youth leadership program, are in ever-increasing demand; all these services are provided by bilingual professionals, and without charge; and

WHEREAS, On Friday, May 3, 2013, KAFSC will host its 24th Annual Benefit Gala; its theme will be "Raising Hope and Transforming Lives"; and

WHEREAS, The distinguished recipients of honor at the 2013 KAFSC Annual Benefit Gala include: two Vision in Action awardees and a corporate honoree; and

WHEREAS, The two KAFSC Vision in Action Awardees are: Queens Legal Services and SooKyung Nam Vitale, and attorney Pamela Chen; and

WHEREAS, Queens Legal Services provides incredible legal work for those in need and, as an attorney for QLS, SooKyung has dedicated many years of service to promote the well-being and healthy functioning of women, children, and families; attorney Pamela Chen is an individual who has a long and distinguished career as a public servant, with much of her work focusing on civil rights; and

WHEREAS, KAFSC's 2013 corporate honoree is BBCN Bank, an organization that is the definition of corporate social responsibility, and consistently works to better our communities; and

WHEREAS, This auspicious occasion presents an opportunity for this Legislative Body to recognize and pay tribute to the Korean American Family Service Center and its 2013 Annual Benefit Gala honorees; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when organizations and individuals 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

congratulate the Korean American Family Service Center upon the occasion of celebrating its 24th Annual Benefit Gala; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Korean American Family Service Center, and to Queens Legal Services, SooKyung Nam Vitale, Pamela Chen and BBCN Bank.