LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Catholic Charities of Buffalo upon the occasion of its designation as the recipient of the 2015 Torch Award for Philanthropic Excellence by the Better Business Bureau Foundation of Upstate New York

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 organizations and individuals who 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 pleased to honor Catholic Charities of Buffalo upon the occasion of its designation as the recipient of the 2015 Torch Award for Philanthropic Excellence by the Better Business Bureau Foundation of Upstate New York; and

WHEREAS, Catholic Charities of Buffalo was selected as the second annual winner of the prestigious Torch Award by a panel of independent judges; the Better Business Bureau Foundation of Upstate New York developed this award to bring attention to the practices which nonprofits employ to generate a high level of trust among employees, donors and the community; and

WHEREAS, Since its inception in 1923, when diverse Catholic organizations joined forces to form one organization to better serve the needs of the community, Catholic Charities of Buffalo continues to collaborate and reach out with its multiple services throughout Western New York; and

WHEREAS, In 2015, Catholic Charities of Buffalo served nearly 132,000 individuals and families in need throughout the region; the organization offers comprehensive services particularly to those in need and to those who are most vulnerable without regard to religion, race or age; and

WHEREAS, Operating at the highest levels of leadership, character and commitment to its mission and ethics, Catholic Charities of Buffalo believes in empowering individuals, children, and families to achieve and maintain meaningful, healthy and productive lives; and

WHEREAS, Under the able leadership of Dennis C. Walczyk, Chief Executive Officer, Catholic Charities of Buffalo offers services such as helping to administer the WIC program, counseling, and basic housing and food assistance as well as school-based services; and

WHEREAS, The Torch Award for Philanthropic Excellence is a testament to the services Catholic Charities of Buffalo provides to members of the community, and to the impact it has on Western New York; and

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body that when individuals and organizations of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our attention, they should be celebrated and recognized by all the citizens of the great State of New York; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Catholic Charities of Buffalo upon the occasion of its designation as the recipient of the 2015 Torch Award for Philanthropic Excellence by the Better Business Bureau of Upstate New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Dennis C. Walczyk, Chief Executive Officer, Catholic Charities of Buffalo.