

BY: Senator FERNANDEZ

COMMEMORATING the 15th Anniversary of
Communilife's Life is Precious Program

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize and commend organizations and individuals who selflessly work to improve the quality of life for others by coming together and discussing ways to solve common social problems; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 15th Anniversary of Communilife's Life is Precious Program; and

WHEREAS, Founded and led by President and CEO Dr. Rosa Gil, Life is Precious has provided suicide prevention activities to NYC Latina teens who have seriously considered or attempted suicide for the last 15 years; these girls who range in age from 12 to 18, are immigrants or first-generation Americans and live in some of New York City's lowest-income neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, Life is Precious serves New York City and beyond, with four program sites in the Bronx, Brooklyn, Queens, and Washington Heights as well as newly opened sites in Poughkeepsie and Yonkers; and

WHEREAS, Life is Precious' program philosophy of "Survive, Strive and Thrive" is achieved through academic support, wellness activities, expressive arts therapy and family services; and

WHEREAS, Life is Precious is a safe place in which to receive support, offer activities that allow the teen to develop their unique voice, and provide tools that help teens envision and achieve their goals; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Rosa Gil founded Communilife in 1989 to provide vulnerable communities with culturally sensitive services to lead a healthy and meaningful life, and since then, she has worked tirelessly to fulfill these goals; and

WHEREAS, In 2022, Communilife served more than 3,000 low-income and vulnerable New Yorkers, 90% of whom are African American and 50% of whom have Spanish as their primary or sole language, and all of whom struggle with profound challenges including chronic homelessness, HIV/AIDS and other major medical issues, serious mental illnesses, and substance use disorder; 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 commemorate the 15th Anniversary of Communilife's Life is Precious Program; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Dr. Rosa Gil, Founder, President, and CEO of Communilife.