

Senate Resolution No. 1750

BY: Senator MAYER

COMMENDING the Boys & Girls Club of New Rochelle,
New York, upon the occasion of celebrating its 95th
Anniversary on April 12, 2024

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize and pay tribute to those organizations of high purpose and worthy accomplishment whose endeavors have faithfully served the welfare of the youth of the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend the Boys & Girls Club of New Rochelle upon the occasion of celebrating its 95th Anniversary to be celebrated at its Anniversary Gala at the Remington Clubhouse on Friday, April 12, 2024; and

WHEREAS, In November of 1929, the Boys & Girls Club (called Boys' Club originally) was established by the community of New Rochelle, New York, with the purpose of aiding the children of the families that were devastated by the Stock Market Crash and subsequent Great Depression; and

WHEREAS, During this tumultuous part of our history, many of the country's youth had little food to eat or clothing to wear, and numerous children were forced to abandon their education and obtain jobs, which were not always available, to assist in providing necessities for their households; and

WHEREAS, The New Rochelle community acknowledged its obligation to the future generations of this State and Nation and decided to provide a resource that would accommodate the requirements to produce well-rounded and successful citizens; and

WHEREAS, The statement, "To enable all young people, especially those who need us most, to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens," became the mission of the Boys & Girls Club of New Rochelle; over time, this undertaking has aided thousands of youths from all races and creeds and produced successful and community-minded adults; and

WHEREAS, The original meeting place of the Boys & Girls Club was the old Washington School building; through the years, this youth-centered organization's transformation has continually progressed to meet the needs of not only the children but also the entire community; as the demands of the populace increased, the organization expanded; and

WHEREAS, In the early 1940s, the South Side Unit was opened in the basement of the old Jefferson School; in 1953, due to the dedication and fundraising of the Remington Women's Auxiliary Club and the Remington Advisory Board, a portion of the existing facility was built; and

WHEREAS, In 1972, the Charles Hayden Foundation and the City of New Rochelle granted the funding that afforded the Women's Auxiliary Club, along with other community members, the plausibility of adding a gymnasium, game room, showers, locker room, and office was realized; and

WHEREAS, In 1983, the South Side Unit moved to a new building; the Respect Extension was opened at the MacLeay Apartment Complex, which was owned by the New Rochelle Neighborhood Revitalization Corporation, in 2001; and

WHEREAS, Three years later, the Boys & Girls Club of New Rochelle expanded further to meet the changing needs of the youth by partnering with the Board of Education, providing after-school programs as part of the 21st Century Program, a federally funded grant under the No Child Left Behind initiative, at the Isaac E. Young Middle School; in 2006, the South Side Unit unified with the A. E. Mascaro Unit; and

WHEREAS, In 2007, in partnership with Iona College, the New Rochelle School District, and other organizations in the community, a new program for youth, Readiness thru Integrated Service Engagement (RISE), was established to accommodate the needs of middle school children; the following year, this alliance with the school district instituted the Safe Schools grant, which provides programs for teens, and the SHAPE grant, which focuses on fitness, broadening the outreach of services to the younger generation; and

WHEREAS, In September of 2008, the Boys & Girls Club opened its first school-based site at Trinity Elementary School, followed by an after-school program at Ward Elementary School; January of 2013 ushered in a new affiliation between the Boys & Girls Club and New Rochelle High School, launching an after-school program for teens; and

WHEREAS, The Boys & Girls Club has provided opportunities for leadership development, community outreach, and overall personal development for their young people; many members have become volunteers and served on the Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, The success of the Boys & Girls Club of New Rochelle is in direct correlation to the efforts of its members, whose involvement is, and always has been, characterized by an impressive commitment, an unbridled enthusiasm, and an uncompromising standard of excellence in all endeavors on behalf of the Board of Directors, the Remington Men's Club, Remington Women's Auxiliary Club, staff members, and volunteers, serving approximately 1,200 members per year; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense 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 this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend the Boys & Girls Club of New Rochelle, New York, upon the occasion of celebrating its 95th Anniversary, and to honor its members, past and present, who have labored so conscientiously to secure and

improve the quality of life for the youth of the community; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Boys & Girls Club.