

BY: Senator PARKER

COMMENDING the Korean American Family Service Center upon the occasion of hosting its 34th Anniversary Benefit Gala on April 28, 2023

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and pay tribute to those organizations which foster ethnic pride and enhance the profile of cultural diversity which strengthens the fabric of the communities of New York State; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend the Korean American Family Service Center upon the occasion of hosting its 34th Anniversary Benefit Gala on Friday, April 28, 2023, at Cipriani 42nd Street, Manhattan, New York; and

WHEREAS, The Korean American Family Service Center (KAFSC) is a leading, nonprofit organization which supports and empowers adults, youth and children to lead safe and healthy lives based on dignity, compassion and mutual respect; 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 context; and

WHEREAS, In response to the needs of the growing Korean immigrant community in New York City, the Korean American Family Service Center has evolved over the past 34 years to become a primary dual agency that addresses domestic violence and sexual assault victims from a combined prevention and intervention perspective while remaining sensitive to the cultural setting; and

WHEREAS, The Korean American Family Service Center is committed to preventing and ending domestic violence, sexual assault, and relationship abuse while operating a 24-hour bilingual hotline; and

WHEREAS, Founded in 1989, the Korean American Family Service Center began as an all-volunteer group, and the first anti-domestic violence organization dedicated to serving the Korean American community in the New York Tri-State area; from small one-room beginnings with part-time hours in a church basement, KAFSC has since grown to provide a full array of children, youth, and adult holistic services; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, KAFSC expert staff, 100% of whom are bilingual and bicultural, personally understand immigrant family struggles and can respond to clients with innate sensitivity; and

WHEREAS, The vision of the Korean American Family Service Center is more pressing today than ever; striving for a socially just society where Korean American immigrants can fully partake as Americans; as a learning organization, KAFSC utilizes community feedback, program outcomes, focus groups, and surveys to improve current programming and develop new initiatives; and

WHEREAS, The Korean American Family Service Center is committed to working collaboratively with community stakeholders to leverage resources, share learning, document social impact, offer thought leadership on issues that impact new immigrants, and serve as a trauma-informed central hub; and

WHEREAS, The success of the Korean American Family Service Center is in direct correlation to the efforts of its dedicated staff, 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 organization and the community it serves; and

WHEREAS, This auspicious occasion presents an opportunity for this Legislative Body to celebrate the resilience of survivors of violence who have successfully led new lives away from abuse, and to stand with the Korean American Family Service Center in its mission to create a violence-free society; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend the Korean American Family Service Center upon the occasion of hosting its 34th Anniversary Benefit Gala on April 28, 2023; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Korean American Family Service Center.