

BY: Senator AKSHAR

RECOGNIZING April 19-25, 2021, as YWCA Stand Against Racism Week, and commending the YWCA of Binghamton and Broome County on its 2021 Stand Against Racism campaign

WHEREAS, Stand Against Racism takes place annually in April and is a signature campaign of YWCA USA to raise awareness about the negative impact of institutional and structural racism in our communities and to build community among those who work for racial justice; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is proud to recognize April 19-25, 2021, as YWCA Stand Against Racism Week, and to commend the YWCA of Binghamton and Broome County on its 2021 Stand Against Racism campaign; and

WHEREAS, Stand Against Racism unites communities to educate, advocate, and promote racial justice; this year's theme challenges every New Yorker to move "From Declarations to Change: Addressing Racism as a Public Health Crisis"; and

WHEREAS, All residents regardless of race, creed, or ethnicity deserve to be treated with dignity, respect, compassion, and justice; and

WHEREAS, Every New Yorker values initiatives that will end race-based disparities and make the world a more equitable, inclusive, and dignified place for all to live; and

WHEREAS, Racism is a barrier to achieving public health equity; it plays a large role in determining the conditions in which people are born, grow, work, live, and age; and

WHEREAS, These factors affect people's access to quality housing, education, food, transportation, political power, and other social determinants of health; understanding and addressing systemic racism from this public health perspective is crucial to eliminating racial and ethnic inequities, and to improving opportunity and well-being across communities; and

WHEREAS, Since its inception in 1892, the YWCA of Binghamton and Broome County has remained true to its mission of eliminating racism, empowering women and promoting peace, justice, dignity and freedom for all; and

WHEREAS, Racism still exists and is damaging to all people; residents, local businesses, educators, and community and faith-based organizations from the State of New York are encouraged to work towards a State free from racism and are invited to join the YWCA's 2021 Stand Against Racism campaign; our collective efforts can root out injustice, transform institutions, and create a world that sees women, girls, and

people of color as they ought to be seen: Equal. Powerful. Unstoppable.;
now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to recognize April 19-25, 2021, as YWCA Stand Against Racism Week, and to commend the YWCA of Binghamton and Broome County on its 2021 Stand Against Racism campaign; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the YWCA of Binghamton and Broome County.