Senate Resolution No. 2211

BY: Senator PARKER

COMMENDING Project ECHO upon the occasion of hosting its "A Soulful Evening for Survivors" Gala on June 6, 2026

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and pay tribute to those organizations of high purpose and worthy accomplishment whose enduring commitment to healing, community safety, and the dignity of survivors has enriched the civic life 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 Project ECHO upon the occasion of hosting its "A Soulful Evening for Survivors" Gala on Saturday, June 6, 2026 in Brooklyn, New York; and

WHEREAS, Project ECHO is a Brooklyn-based community violence intervention organization rooted in the neighborhoods of East Flatbush and Flatbush, whose mission is to amplify the collective power of the community beyond violence prevention to reshape dialogue, foster collaboration, and drive the kind of transformative, healing-centered change that makes communities free to prosper; and

WHEREAS, Project ECHO operates from the foundational understanding that violence is not born in a vacuum but is most often the result of unresolved trauma, persistent poverty, inadequate mental health resources, and the accumulated weight of systemic neglect; by addressing these root causes directly and compassionately, through trauma support, mental health counseling, mentorship, and active street-level violence interruption, Project ECHO offers not merely services but a vision: that every member of this community deserves the tools, the support, and the safety to reach their full potential; and

WHEREAS, Project ECHO's trained violence interrupters are actively present in the community every day, working to de-escalate tensions before they become tragedies, building trust where distrust has taken root, and standing as proof that the most powerful solutions to community violence are those that emerge from the community itself; and

WHEREAS, Through a multi-disciplinary approach that brings together community members, healthcare professionals, social workers, and other stakeholders, Project ECHO has demonstrated that lasting safety is built not through punishment alone but through partnership, healing, and the stubborn insistence that every life in East Flatbush and beyond is worth fighting for; and

WHEREAS, "A Soulful Evening for Survivors" is a celebration of resilience, an honoring of those who have walked through violence and trauma and found the courage to heal, to speak, and to transform their experiences into advocacy and community; in celebrating survivors, Project ECHO affirms what it has always known: that the people most

affected by violence are also among its most powerful solutions; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is proudly moved to honor Project ECHO, its leadership, its staff, its volunteers, and the survivors and community members whose lives bear witness to the transformative power of a community that refuses to abandon its own; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend Project ECHO upon the occasion of hosting its "A Soulful Evening for Survivors" Gala on June 6, 2026, and to extend congratulations and deep appreciation to all who make this organization's life-saving work possible; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the leadership and staff of Project ECHO, in recognition of their unwavering commitment to healing, safety, and the dignity of every member of the Brooklyn community they serve.