

**BY:** M. of A. Davila

**COMMENDING** Southside United HDFC-Los Sures upon the occasion of hosting its Annual Gala on October 16, 2025

**WHEREAS,** It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and honor those organizations whose commitment and dedication to the well-being of others have significantly enhanced the quality of life for individuals and families across 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 honor Southside United HDFC-Los Sures upon the occasion of hosting its Annual Gala on Thursday, October 16, 2025; and

**WHEREAS,** With minimal staff and a handful of volunteers, Southside Los Sures began to rebuild the South Side of Williamsburg, Brooklyn, in June 1972; the founders were responding to an epidemic of landlord abandonment, withdrawal of City services, and illegal evictions by landlords attempting to alter the ethnic composition of the neighborhood; and

**WHEREAS,** Southside Los Sures fought back by organizing tenants and promoting community-based control of housing, becoming the first community-based organization to enter into agreements to manage City-owned properties; Los Sures was one of the first groups to undertake large-scale rehabilitation, becoming a key player in the stabilization of buildings' long-term affordability and health; and

**WHEREAS,** Each year, Southside Los Sures hosts its Gala to support its mission of providing affordable housing, tenant advocacy, and community development; the Gala serves as a cornerstone fundraising event for Los Sures, bringing together community leaders, activists, and supporters to celebrate the organization's impact and raise funds for its programs; and

**WHEREAS,** Southside Los Sures provides culturally competent and linguistically accessible support to residents of Williamsburg and Bushwick; its Social Services Department provides a variety of services, including a Food Pantry, Senior Center, and entitlement benefits assistance, impacting more than 150,000 residents annually; the Community Organizing Department works with residents, Housing Development Fund Corporations (HDFCs), and tenant associations to provide technical assistance and educational workshops on housing issues; and

**WHEREAS,** Southside Los Sures received the 2012 NYC Food Bank Award for the Borough of Brooklyn and the 2014 "Pantry of the Year" recognition for its Choice Emergency Food Pantry which serves more than 700 families monthly; and

**WHEREAS,** Southside Los Sures was a key participant in the Right to Counsel NYC Coalition which won a major city-wide victory when then-Mayor Blasio committed to passing legislation to mandate universal access to legal representation for low-income tenants in court; and

**WHEREAS,** Additionally, Southside Los Sures has been working in communities impacted by gun and gang violence by implementing a community-based approach to interrupting violence and developing a Neighborhood Safety Coalition; this Coalition brings together community stakeholders who can use their resources and community connections to address issues of violence and promote community-coordinated responses to acts of violence; and

**WHEREAS,** This year's Southside Los Sures Gala proudly celebrates the mission to nurture and sustain a vibrant North Brooklyn neighborhood by advocating for affordable housing, promoting family health and well-being, and advancing equal opportunity for all; and

**WHEREAS,** This Legislative Body is proud to recognize the outstanding contributions of Southside Los Sures to the social fabric of the State of New York and celebrate the organization's unwavering commitment to building a more equitable and supportive society for all; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED,** That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Southside United HDFC-Los Sures, upon the occasion of hosting its Annual Gala on October 16, 2025, and to commend the organization for more than five decades of transformative service; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Southside United HDFC-Los Sures.