

2013-J182

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring PUSH Buffalo for its outstanding service to the community

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize that the quality and character of life in the communities across New York State are reflective of the concerned and dedicated efforts of those organizations and individuals who would devote themselves to the welfare of the community and its citizenry; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor PUSH Buffalo for its outstanding service to the community; and

WHEREAS, Founded in 2005, PUSH Buffalo is a local membership-based community organization fighting to make affordable housing a reality on Buffalo's West Side; and

WHEREAS, PUSH Buffalo was established with the goal of creating strong neighborhoods with quality affordable housing, decreasing the rate of housing abandonment by reclaiming empty houses from neglectful public and private owners and redeveloping them for occupancy by low-income residents, and developing neighborhood leaders capable of gaining community control over the development process and planning for the future of the neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, The mission of PUSH Buffalo is to mobilize residents to create neighborhoods with quality, affordable housing, expand local hiring opportunities, and advance economic justice in Buffalo; and

WHEREAS, PUSH Buffalo stands behind six core values which include: Member Involvement, Inclusiveness, Ownership, Results-Oriented, Relevance, and Justice; and

WHEREAS, PUSH Buffalo has set high goals for itself; in the near future these goals include: building a more democratic, action-oriented organization that addresses poor housing conditions and the lack of living wage jobs in our neighborhoods; increasing property ownership of low-income residents through the PUSH's Mutual Housing Association; decreasing the rate of housing abandonment by reclaiming properties from neglectful public and private owners and redeveloping them for occupan-

cy; leading direct action campaigns against corporations and government agencies whose practices contribute to the high poverty rate in their community; and creating a replicable model of grassroots neighborhood organizing and redevelopment that can be deployed in other low-income communities throughout the Rust Belt; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when 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 honor PUSH Buffalo for its outstanding service to the community; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Aaron Bartley, Executive Director and Co-founder, PUSH Buffalo.