

No. R-127. House concurrent resolution congratulating Spectrum Youth and Family Services on its winning the 2009 National Network for Youth Agency of the Year Award.

(H.C.R.72)

Offered by: Representatives Pugh of South Burlington, Donahue of Northfield, Fisher of Lincoln, Frank of Underhill, French of Randolph, Haas of Rochester, Keenan of St. Albans City, Larson of Burlington, McFaun of Barre Town, Mrowicki of Putney and Zuckerman of Burlington

Whereas, in 1970, community leaders in Burlington were alarmed at the rising number of at-risk youth who were running away from foster homes, and these leaders joined with the Burlington Ecumenical Ministry to establish a new organization, Shelter Action, to help lead these troubled young persons on to a better life's path, and

Whereas, now known as Spectrum Youth and Family Services, the organization today provides a menu of interrelated services far beyond the core program envisioned when it was founded, and

Whereas, these youth-support services include personal counseling, domestic abuse education, a drop-in center, educational guidance and preparation, a health clinic, job assistance, a juvenile justice center, a mentoring program, the street outreach effort, student assistance, and the youth development services program, and

Whereas, during nearly four decades of serving the Burlington area's at-risk youth, Spectrum Youth and Family Services has evolved into an organization with a widely known reputation for excellence, innovation, and success, and

Whereas, in recognition of the organization's special commitment to at-risk youth and the commendable record of success it has achieved, Spectrum Youth and Family Services has been named the winner of the 2009 National Network for Youth Agency of the Year Award, and

Whereas, in honoring Spectrum Youth and Family Services, the National Network for Youth cited in particular the organization's "transformative move toward Outcome-Based accountability," and "the positive results that your staff display," and

Whereas, the award was presented to Spectrum Youth and Family Services at the National Youth Network's annual awards celebration and congressional reception in Washington, D.C., now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates Spectrum Youth and Family Services on winning the 2009 National Network for Youth Agency of the Year Award, and be it further

Resolved: That the secretary of state be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Executive Director Mark Redmond of Spectrum Youth and Family Services in Burlington.