

No. R-455. House concurrent resolution congratulating Rutland's United Neighborhoods Community Justice Center on its 15th anniversary.

(H.C.R.378)

Offered by: Representatives Russell of Rutland City, Canfield of Fair Haven, Carr of Brandon, Chesnut-Tangerman of Middletown Springs, Cupoli of Rutland City, Fagan of Rutland City, Gage of Rutland City, Helm of Fair Haven, McCoy of Poultney, Potter of Clarendon, Shaw of Pittsford, Tate of Mendon, and Terenzini of Rutland Town

Offered by: Senators Collamore, Flory, and Mullin

Whereas, in 2001, the Mayor of Rutland City and the Rutland City Police Department supported the establishment of a new organization to be known as Rutland's United Neighborhoods Community Justice Center (RUNCJC), and

Whereas, the organization "works with a coalition of neighbors and the Agency of Human Services to provide and promote active representation, mutual respect and shared responsibility for the safe and healthy neighborhoods and community," and

Whereas, RUNCJC has identified four Rutland City neighborhoods in which it facilitates community dialogue and addresses issues of concern, and

Whereas, the types of issues RUNCJC works on in these neighborhoods include establishing safer speeds on local streets and reducing noise levels, and

Whereas, each neighborhood has a coordinator and a police liaison to work with the local citizenry, and

Whereas, on a citywide basis, and in collaboration with the Rutland City Police and the Department of Corrections (DOC), RUNCJC offers educational and informational assistance in a number of areas, including facilitating restorative justice panels to create a mutually agreeable resolution to juvenile and adult offenses; through support of a DOC planning grant, operating an offender reentry program that balances the needs of crime victims and released offenders; coordinating a community mediation process that assists neighbors in resolving conflicts; and overseeing special events, including cosponsoring a National Night Out to say good-bye to crime, conducting Green Up activities in each of the four designated neighborhoods, and staffing an information booth at the Vermont State Fair, and

Whereas, 2008 Acts and Resolves No. 115 has provided legal authority for many of RUNCJC's community justice programs, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates Rutland's United Neighborhoods Community Justice Center on its 15th anniversary, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Rutland's United Neighborhoods Community Justice Center.