

**A PROCLAMATION SUBMITTED BY  
LEGISLATOR MILLER-WILLIAMS**

**RE: Honoring Teaching and Restoring Youth, Inc. on the Occasion of their 10<sup>th</sup>  
Annual Founders' Award Dinner**

**WHEREAS**, Teaching and Restoring Youth, Inc. (TRY) began as an outreach initiative of Sr. Mary Augusta Kaiser SSJ to address the high incidence of prostitution and homelessness among young women on the East Side of Buffalo; and

**WHEREAS**, TRY became a reality in 1997 as a project of the Fillmore-Leroy Area Residents, Inc. (FLARE) after several years of searching for a building that would be converted into a residence, fundraising efforts secured donors to assist in the costs associated with the acquisition and renovation of a former convent used by the Catholic Diocese of Buffalo; and

**WHEREAS**, TRY began its mission as a resource to empower court mandated young women to rebuild their lives and become productive members of society, the mission was expanded in 1998 to include prevention and early intervention for young women who had begun to live on the streets and had not been involved in the criminal court system; and

**WHEREAS**, since the inception of the TRY program, more than 300 women have been serviced through the structured living environment and many more young women have accessed the program the early intervention aspect of the program and been referred to other programs in the area; and

**WHEREAS**, the mission of the TRY program is to assist in rebuilding the lives of young women suffering from abuse, violence and victimization, many of the program's functions have been supported through fundraising efforts and individual sponsorships.

**NOW, BE IT THEREFORE,**

**RESOLVED**, that the Erie County Legislature pauses in its deliberations to congratulate the Teaching and Restoring Youth, Inc. for hosting the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Founders' Award Dinner and further acknowledges the important work being done through the program to enrich the lives of young women throughout our county and community.