

# Dutchess County Legislature



## **Commendation: Ten Year Anniversary of the Foundation for Community Health**

Legislators KELSEY, SURMAN, and BLALOCK offer the following and moves its adoption:

**Whereas**, the Foundation for Community Health was established on June 3, 2003 as a public charity to serve northeastern Dutchess County, southeastern Columbia County and northwestern Litchfield County in Connecticut, and

**Whereas**, the Foundation for Community Health awards grants, conducts research, provides technical and program development assistance, promotes collaborations and supports advocacy for the benefit of our community, and

**Whereas**, the Foundation for Community Health is dedicated to improving the physical and mental health of the residents of our community with a primary focus on access to services, oral health and mental health, and

**Whereas**, over 52,000 transportation rides have been provided with Foundation for Community Health funding that has helped our residents to keep medical appointments and to pursue activities of daily living that have aided in maintaining and improving their physical and mental health, and

**Whereas**, through funding and support, the Foundation for Community Health has helped establish a dental clinic at Hudson River Healthcare as well as an in-school dental program at the Dover Elementary School. That such program is expected to reduce prevalence of cavities in third-grade students by at least half in less than 5 years as was experienced in their CT program. The Foundation's support in oral health has funded well over 10,000 procedures for children in their service area such as fillings, extractions, sealants and fluoride treatments. Additionally, adults are now able to obtain oral health services regardless of their ability to pay as a result of the establishment of the dental clinic, and

**Whereas**, over 10,000 youth, in the Foundation for Community Health's service area, have participated in a variety of prevention programs aimed at strengthening their abilities to handle such issues as bullying, substance use and abuse, and violence. Their most recent funding is expected to reach up to 900 children and adolescents with mental health services to be delivered in primary care pediatric practices in 2013, and



**Whereas**, the Foundation for Community Health was instrumental in establishing the Northeast Dutchess Transit, a Dial-A-Ride service for eastern Dutchess County, that has provided approximately 2,500 rides for more than 400 riders in its first year of operation, and

**Whereas**, the Foundation for Community Health has helped residents pay for prescriptions through the Foundation's Prescription Assistance Fund. Well over \$1 million has been used by local residents to fill their prescriptions allowing them to be able to afford other necessities such as food and fuel, and

**Whereas**, the Foundation for Community Health has provided technical and organizational assistance to help establish such programs as the Summer Food Program with the North East Community Center that served 2,600 free meals to children for breakfast and lunch in the Millerton/Amenia area in summer 2012, and the healthcare workforce development program, *Scrub Club: Pathways to Health Careers*, being piloted at the Dover High School, therefore be it

**RESOLVED** that the Legislature of Dutchess County does hereby award this Commendation to the Foundation for Community Health in recognition of their outstanding accomplishments and invaluable contributions to the health and well being of the people of Dutchess County.

STATE OF NEW YORK

ss:

COUNTY OF DUTCHESS

This is to certify that I, the undersigned Clerk of the Legislature of the County of Dutchess have compared the foregoing resolution with the original resolution now on file in the office of said clerk, and which was adopted by said Legislature on the 8th day of April, 2013, and that the same is a true and correct transcript of said original resolution and of the whole thereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal of said Legislature this 8th day of April, 2013.

  
CAROLYN MORRIS, CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE