



HR0946

LRB102 29022 LAW 40924 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of  
3 Representatives wish to congratulate Guardian Angel Community  
4 Services on the occasion of its 125th anniversary on October  
5 19, 2022; and

6           WHEREAS, Guardian Angel Community Services, the oldest  
7 social service organization in Will County, was founded by the  
8 Sisters of St. Francis Mary Immaculate of Joliet when they  
9 purchased a small cottage behind their motherhouse on October  
10 19, 1897, which became the first Guardian Angel Home to care  
11 for dependent and neglected children; and

12           WHEREAS, Guardian Angel Community Services has been  
13 recognized on the local, national, and global stage, and it  
14 has achieved the highest standards of excellence for best  
15 practice in service delivery and operations; the organization  
16 is licensed as an Illinois Child Welfare Organization and  
17 accredited by the Council on Accreditation, an international,  
18 independent human service organization that partners with  
19 human service organizations worldwide; and

20           WHEREAS, Guardian Angel Community Services' mission is to  
21 provide diverse services that inspire people to improve the  
22 quality of their lives in their greatest time of need; and

1           WHEREAS, Guardian Angel Community Services' philosophy of  
2           care is centralized around peace, justice, and the belief in  
3           people's inalienable human right to live safely, free from  
4           violence, oppression, and abuse; and

5           WHEREAS, Guardian Angel Community Services is guided by  
6           the principle that people have the right to self-determination  
7           on their journey towards healing; and

8           WHEREAS, Guardian Angel Community Services strives to  
9           instill hope through client-centered services provided in a  
10          safe and confidential environment; and

11          WHEREAS, Since the start of the 21st century, Guardian  
12          Angel Community Services has served over 700,000 people  
13          through direct services, prevention education, and community  
14          outreach, expanding its services by an extraordinary 705%; and

15          WHEREAS, Guardian Angel Community Services operates  
16          several programs in present day; and

17          WHEREAS, Guardian Angel Community Services' Groundwork  
18          program offers comprehensive services for survivors of  
19          domestic violence, including a 24-hour emergency hotline and  
20          shelter, crisis intervention, individual and group counseling,

1 and legal and medical advocacy services; and

2 WHEREAS, Guardian Angel Community Services' Suzy's Caring  
3 Place provides housing to domestic violence survivors and  
4 their children and works to reduce the incidence of  
5 homelessness by addressing the emotional and economic  
6 consequences of victimization; and

7 WHEREAS, Guardian Angel Community Services' Sexual Assault  
8 Services Center offers comprehensive services to survivors of  
9 sexual assault, including a 24-hour emergency hotline,  
10 individual and group counseling, and legal and medical  
11 advocacy, while implementing a robust prevention education and  
12 community outreach campaign annually; and

13 WHEREAS, Guardian Angel Community Services' Exchange Club  
14 Center provides parenting classes and nurtures healthy  
15 child/youth development for the prevention of child abuse and  
16 neglect; and

17 WHEREAS, Guardian Angel Community Services' Foster Care  
18 program recruits, trains, and provides oversight and support  
19 to foster parents who offer a caring and safe environment to  
20 children who have been removed from their environment due to  
21 abuse or neglect, while also meeting the needs of youth in  
22 foster care and assisting their families towards

1 reunification; and

2 WHEREAS, Guardian Angel Community Services' Partner Abuse  
3 Intervention Program helps individuals develop healthy,  
4 mutually supportive relationships to eliminate domestic  
5 violence from their lives through education-based services;  
6 and

7 WHEREAS, Guardian Angel Community Services' Adult  
8 Protective Services assists adults with disabilities aged 18  
9 to 59 as well as those who are 60 years of age and older who  
10 are at risk due to abuse, neglect, self-neglect, and  
11 exploitation; and

12 WHEREAS, Guardian Angel Community Services has an  
13 exemplary history of adapting programming in response to  
14 community needs, including opening satellite offices in  
15 Joliet, Plainfield, Morris, and Crete and expanding emergency  
16 shelter beds for survivors of domestic violence by 50%; more  
17 recently, the organization responded swiftly to the global  
18 COVID-19 pandemic, with its heroic staff serving on the front  
19 lines to deliver 24-hour essential services; and

20 WHEREAS, Guardian Angel Community Services continues to  
21 withstand the test of time while demonstrating community  
22 leadership and service towards significantly improving the

1 quality of life of citizens; therefore, be it

2 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
3 HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
4 we congratulate Guardian Angel Community Services on its 125th  
5 anniversary; and be it further

6 RESOLVED, That we commend Guardian Angel Community  
7 Services' Board of Directors, staff, volunteers, and donors  
8 for their continued dedication and service to the community.