

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, HOSPITALS,
AND HUMAN SERVICES

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BILL NO. 32-0173

Thirty-Second Legislature of the Virgin Islands

March 2, 2018

A Resolution honoring and commending The Family Resource Center for its services to victims and families in the U. S. Virgin Islands throughout the years

PROPOSED BY: Senator Janelle K. Sarauw
Co-sponsors: Marvin A. Blyden, Dwayne M. DeGraff,
Jean A. Forde, Alicia Hansen and Nereida Rivera-O'Reilly

1 **WHEREAS**, the Family Resource Center, formally Women’s Resource Center, began
2 its services in 1986 with the opening of its emergency shelter for women and children; and

3 **WHEREAS**, the Family Resource Center (“FRC”) is a private non-profit agency that
4 incorporated in 1987 to establish a counseling program and shelter for victims of domestic
5 violence and sexual assault; and

6 **WHEREAS**, since its inception, FRC has expanded its services to include all victims
7 of violent crime and families in crisis; and

8 **WHEREAS**, when FRC opened its doors over 31 years ago, its purpose was to end
9 family violence, it has been a long but fruitful journey from its first one room office to its
10 current four unique facilities; and

1 **WHEREAS**, one such facility is the Alice Hamilton Shelter/Safe House that is a 20-
2 bed operation for adults and children in an undisclosed location to protect clients' safety and
3 operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week; and

4 **WHEREAS**, another facility is the Family Youth and Crisis Intervention Facility,
5 located in Estate Thomas which is a program to help troubled adolescents and their parents;
6 and

7 **WHEREAS**, another facility is the Spenceley Counseling Center Facility, where
8 critical counseling is provided for individual and groups, to aid children, adults and families
9 and is located at 2317 Commandant Gade 16B & 17; and

10 **WHEREAS**, the next facility is CeCe's closet-FRC's Second Chance Boutique -FRC's
11 thrift store to help provide clothing for those clients in need; and

12 **WHEREAS**, FRC provides numerous services for domestic violence and sexual
13 assault victims' services to protect them and their families, such as a 24 hour Crisis Line and
14 Crisis Responders, consisting of trained volunteers; an Individual and Group Counseling;
15 Support Groups; a Children & Teen Groups; a Legal Advocacy; an Outreach Education in the
16 community, and private and public schools; Information and referrals, a 24-hour Emergency
17 Shelter; a Permanent and Transitional Housing Assistance; a Safe house Transition Alley - Job
18 and Education Development and a Resource Library and Education Department; and

19 **WHEREAS**, FRC's 24-hour response services are the Women of Worth Group, the
20 Children/Intermediate/Adolescent Groups; Men Terminating Violence, Women Anger
21 Management; Family and Youth Crisis Intervention Program ("FYCIP"); FYCIP Rites of
22 Passage for families; FYCIP Rites of Passage Girls Rights of Passage; and

1 **WHEREAS**, its intervention services for child abuse victims includes not only
2 counseling, but court advocacy, emergency shelter and financial assistance to child victims of
3 physical and sexual abuse and neglect; and

4 **WHEREAS**, the services at FRC's shelter for adult and child victims of Domestic
5 Violence and Sexual Abuse - The Alice Hamilton House - consists of providing meals,
6 clothing, personal hygiene products and a variety of other products, as well as necessary wrap
7 around services; and it also provides a no-charge prescription program offered by a local
8 pharmacy; and

9 **WHEREAS**, FRC provides safe accommodations in guest houses and hotels in
10 extreme emergency situations and when no other shelter is available or is deemed unsafe; and

11 **WHEREAS**, FRC's referral services includes referrals to other community agencies
12 that may offer additional assistance; and

13 **WHEREAS**, the legal advocacy provided by FRC includes assistance in obtaining
14 restraining orders or protection orders, accompaniment to court hearings and criminal trials,
15 court representation and preparation for court; and

16 **WHEREAS**, FRC's transitional housing assistance includes providing a one-time
17 rental assistance to prevent homelessness of its clients who are transitioning to independent
18 housing and who need assistance for the first month's rent and/or security deposit; and

19 **WHEREAS**, its community outreach, which is a prevention tool, consists of outreach
20 activities to schools, faith-based organization, civic groups, community events at no cost. The
21 topics are domestic violence, child abuse and rape prevention; and

