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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 312

Offered February 12, 2014

Commending HomeAid Northern Virginia.

Patrons—Plum; Senator: Howell

WHEREAS, HomeAid Northern Virginia was honored by the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce and Cornerstones, Inc., with a prestigious 2014 Best of Reston Award in the Civic/Community Organization category; and

WHEREAS, the Best of Reston awards honor individuals, organizations, and companies that have demonstrated an extraordinary commitment to helping others and improving the lives of people throughout the greater Reston area; and

WHEREAS, HomeAid Northern Virginia (HANV) is an organization that was started by members of the Northern Virginia Building Industry Association, Inc., to help homeless people gain stability in their lives by providing shelter and housing; and

WHEREAS, as construction industry professionals, the members of HANV build and renovate homeless shelters, transitional housing, counseling centers, and other facilities that help the homeless population and other people in need; and

WHEREAS, companies that belong to HANV donate money, time, and materials for the construction projects; the group has completed nine renovation projects in Reston—directly helping more than 300 people—at a cost of more than \$200,000 worth of materials and labor; approximately 82 percent of the materials and labor were donated; and

WHEREAS, projects built by HANV in the Reston area include temporary, transitional, and permanent housing for people fleeing domestic violence, the disabled, people with special needs, and the homeless; and

WHEREAS, HANV has provided construction services to Alternative House, Christian Relief Services, Cornerstones Housing Corporation, Gabriel Homes, Inc., Loudoun Abused Women's Shelter, Northern Virginia Family Service, and other organizations; and

WHEREAS, since its founding in 2001, HANV has completed more than 70 projects in the Commonwealth valued at more than \$10.5 million, serving more than 10,000 people; the group is led by a 30-member volunteer board and has two full-time employees; and

WHEREAS, HANV also started Women Giving Back, a program that provides clothing to women and children in homeless shelters; the group realized that many women who were in shelters needed clothes and accessories that were appropriate to wear to work and school; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend HomeAid Northern Virginia for its outstanding efforts to improve the lives of people in need in the Reston area and on its well-deserved honor of being named a recipient of a 2014 Best of Reston Award in the Civic/Community Organization category; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to HomeAid Northern Virginia as an expression of the General Assembly's respect and admiration for its work to provide safe shelter for homeless families and other people in need in the greater Reston area.

INTRODUCED

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