

## 2022 SESSION

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### HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 371

Offered March 4, 2022

*Commending Healthy Families Newport News.*

Patrons—Price, Mullin and Simonds; Senators: Locke and Mason

WHEREAS, Healthy Families Newport News, an initiative administered by the Newport News Department of Human Services to proactively address factors contributing to child neglect and abuse, commemorates its 25th anniversary in 2022; and

WHEREAS, the origins of Healthy Families Newport News (HFNN) date to 1996, when the Newport News City Council created a work group to implement a chapter of Health Families America in Newport News; and

WHEREAS, initially known as the Newport News Healthy Families Initiative, HFNN began providing voluntary, intensive, evidence-based home visiting services to first-time parents in 1997; and

WHEREAS, the Newport News Department of Human Services has been responsible for the implementation of HFNN for the past 25 years, ensuring the initiative's accreditation by the national Healthy Families America organization while achieving its program goals; and

WHEREAS, the HFNN model has been effective in reducing the incidence of child abuse and neglect while improving maternal and child health and fostering better parenting practices; and

WHEREAS, after a systematic risk assessment and evaluation, HFNN extends its home visit services to families, connecting with them either prenatally or within the first two weeks after birth and following up weekly for at least six months; and

WHEREAS, HFNN assists families during its home visits by providing educational resources and curriculum, modeling supportive parent-child interactions, helping families conduct home safety assessments, screening parents' health and wellness, connecting families to community services, and more; and

WHEREAS, in the past 25 years, HFNN has provided its services to more than 1,800 families, yielding positive outcomes that will reverberate in the community for generations to come; and

WHEREAS, the accomplishments of HFNN are the result of the hard work and dedication of its staff and the unwavering support of the members of its advisory board; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Healthy Families Newport News on the occasion of its 25th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Healthy Families Newport News as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the organization's contributions to the Commonwealth.

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