

## 2019 SESSION

ENROLLED

### HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 437

*Commending the Chris Atwood Foundation.*

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 22, 2019

WHEREAS, for more than five years, the Chris Atwood Foundation has worked to raise awareness of the dangers of addiction, end harmful stigmas surrounding the disease, and promote healthy communities; and

WHEREAS, the Chris Atwood Foundation was formed in 2013 to honor the memory of Reston native Chris Atwood, who died from a heroin overdose at the age of 21; and

WHEREAS, the Chris Atwood Foundation has provided housing grants to more than 275 individuals to support the transition from rehabilitation to sober living facilities; and

WHEREAS, the Chris Atwood Foundation has trained more than 3,000 people in the recognition of a drug overdose and the administration of naloxone; at least 165 lives have been saved as a direct result of this program; and

WHEREAS, the Chris Atwood Foundation received significant grants from Fairfax County and Loudoun County to increase its outreach efforts, which contributed to a 40 percent decrease in overdose deaths in Fairfax County in 2018; and

WHEREAS, the Chris Atwood Foundation has helped thousands of people throughout Virginia by supporting efforts to reform state laws related to distribution of naloxone by qualified private organizations; and

WHEREAS, the Chris Atwood Foundation has focused public attention on the opioid crisis, the lifesaving use of naloxone, and recovery from addiction throughout the United States, Europe, South America, and the Middle East through a variety of media outlets; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That the Chris Atwood Foundation hereby be commended for its more than five years of innovative programs to address the opioid crisis; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Ginny Atwood Lovitt, executive director of the Chris Atwood Foundation, as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for the organization's vital work.

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