

Whereas, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives hold in high esteem those Show-Me State organizations which have dedicated a substantial amount of time and resources to serving others in local communities and neighborhoods; and

Whereas, Citizens for Missouri's Children has attained considerable distinction in Saint Charles County and its environs for work in assisting at-risk youth and their families; and

Whereas, Citizens for Missouri's Children will be recognized with an Award of Distinction on Saturday, February 28, 2004, by Wentzville's Crider Center for Mental Health at its "Heroes for Mental Health" event which will take place at The Columns Banquet Center in Saint Charles; and

Whereas, each year the Crider Center for Mental Health hosts a program to honor people and organizations such as Citizens for Missouri's Children involved in enhancing the mental health of Saint Charles County residents; and

Whereas, Citizens for Missouri's Children was founded in response to a crisis in the foster care system in Missouri more than twenty years ago, since which time it has been a consistent leader in children's issues and a credible source of timely information; and

Whereas, Citizens for Missouri's Children published in 2002 "A Choice That Parents Should Never Face: Relinquishing Custody of Their Children" and "Mental Health Care Counts: Missouri's Children's Mental Health System Demands Reform" which have been critical tools for advocates of children's mental health to use in reforming public policy in Missouri; and

Whereas, in addition to promulgating its annual "Kids Count Missouri," Citizens for Missouri's Children has worked with partners from around the state to advance legislation in 2004 which would further the development of a system of care for children with serious emotional disturbances and their families:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, join unanimously to applaud the visionary work of Citizens for Missouri's Children on behalf of those dealing with mental health issues and to convey to its officers, staff, and volunteers this legislative body's heartiest congratulations upon receiving the Award of Distinction from the Crider Center for Mental Health in Wentzville, Missouri; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution in honor of Citizens for Missouri's Children.

Offered by Representative Scott T. Rupp, #13
Representative Sherman Parker, #12
Representative Joe Smith, #14
Representative Thomas S. Green, #15
Representative Carl Bearden, #16
Representative Vicki A. Schneider, #17
Representative Tom Dempsey, #18
Representative Cynthia Davis, #19
Representative Kevin Threlkeld, #109

I, Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, Second

Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 737, adopted February 24, 2004.

Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker