

House Resolution No. 4910

Whereas, the Missouri Division of Youth Services and William Woods University entered a collaborative agreement in 2000 to pilot a group home for young women on the campus of William Woods University; and

Whereas, in January 2003, the pilot project, the "Rosa Parks Center", opened services to young women between the ages of twelve and seventeen committed by the juvenile courts in the central region of Missouri on the campus of William Woods University; and

Whereas, the Rosa Parks Center has become nationally recognized as the only known program of its kind on a private college campus and has been visited by numerous individuals from other states and delegations including Catholic University in Washington, D.C., in an effort to replicate the program on its campus; and

Whereas, one of thirty-three residential treatment programs operated by the Division of Youth Services which has received national attention and recognition as a model juvenile justice system, the Rosa Parks Center was featured in the January/February 2003 issue of Hope Magazine, as well as an editorial story in the Jefferson City News Tribune; and

Whereas, the 10-12 young women placed at the Rosa Parks Center receive individualized, group, and family counseling to assist them in addressing highly sensitive issues and experiences which have contributed to poor decision-making; and

Whereas, staff members at the Rosa Parks Center have dedicated themselves to equipping the young women to be responsible and productive citizens; and

Whereas, the counseling and treatment services offered to youth have a proven track record with a recidivism rate that is unprecedented at the national level; and

Whereas, William Woods University has allowed the young women at the Rosa Parks Center to attend college classes to listen, learn, and share their stories and needs in an effort to assist college students as they prepare for careers in the juvenile justice field:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, unanimously join in extending our most hearty congratulations to all those dedicated individuals affiliated with the Rosa Parks Center at this proud moment of well-deserved distinction; 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 for the Rosa Parks Center in Fulton, Missouri.

Offered by _____

Representative Danie Moore

District No. 20

I, Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, First Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 4910, adopted January 5, 2004.

Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker