

Senate Resolution 1078

By: Senators Millar of the 40th, Albers of the 56th, Sims of the 12th and Tippins of the 37th

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Recognizing and commending CHRIS Kids for its leadership in promoting trauma informed
- 2 best practices in Georgia and its commitment to helping children, young adults, and families
- 3 with behavioral health challenges; and for other purposes.

- 4 WHEREAS, in 1981, CHRIS Kids was founded by the Junior League of Atlanta to fill a gap
- 5 in services for children in foster care with severe mental health needs who did not need to
- 6 be institutionalized and could remain in the community if provided with adequate behavioral
- 7 health services and support; and

- 8 WHEREAS, CHRIS Kids opened the first program in Georgia to serve youth aging out of
- 9 foster care in 1986; and

- 10 WHEREAS, CHRIS Kids opened the first program in Georgia to serve homeless youth in
- 11 2000; and

- 12 WHEREAS, CHRIS Kids offers an array of highly effective, trauma informed counseling,
- 13 support services, and housing programs that are innovative, inclusive, and individualized;
- 14 and

- 15 WHEREAS, the CHRIS Counseling Center provides school based mental health resources
- 16 for children and their families in over 20 schools in the metro Atlanta public and charter
- 17 school systems; and

- 18 WHEREAS, the CHRIS Counseling Center employs over 36 percent of the certified trauma
- 19 therapists in the state of Georgia and utilizes over 18 different evidenced based therapies; and

- 20 WHEREAS, the services CHRIS Kids provides to children and families result in 100 percent
- 21 of the children being kept safe from harm, 90 percent of families strengthened, and

22 78 percent of designated juvenile felons did not re-offend and successfully completed
23 probation over the past two years; and

24 WHEREAS, the CHRIS Training Institute provides training to other nonprofits, the
25 community, and state personnel in best clinical practices, trauma informed care, child sexual
26 abuse prevention, and anti-bullying to expand the scope of healing in the community; and

27 WHEREAS, CHRIS Kids is an innovator, convener, and collaborator seeking to avoid
28 duplication and to leverage its core competencies in partnership with others; and

29 WHEREAS, former clients living across the United States include servicemen and women,
30 IT professionals, entrepreneurs, actors, musicians, and employees in all areas of the business
31 community; and

32 WHEREAS, CHRIS Kids proves year after year that when children, young adults, and
33 families are provided services, support, acceptance, and accountability, they can succeed in
34 becoming productive citizens who can, and do, end cycles of intergenerational abuse,
35 neglect, and failure in their lives.

36 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
37 recognize and commend CHRIS Kids for its 35 year commitment and leadership in Georgia
38 in helping over 50,000 people with behavioral health challenges develop the resiliency skills
39 they need to navigate life's challenges to become contributing members of our local
40 communities.

41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
42 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to CHRIS Kids.