

RESOLUTION NUMBER 376

Denise Belue

WHEREAS, we have been apprised that Denise Belue will be receiving an award from Grace Hill and her name will be placed on the Wall of Fame of the Grace Hill Women's Business Center; and

WHEREAS, Denise Belue is a local St. Louisan who received her Bachelors of Business Administration (BSBA) degree at Lindenwood College and a Masters of Social Work (MSW) from the George Warren Brown School of Social Work at Washington University. She has been married for 35 years and has a son and a daughter; and

WHEREAS, "After college my first jobs were in foster care and mental health. I always wanted to work directly with children and their families so that whenever possible they could be reunited. Since 1998 I have had the goal which evolved into 'Child Quest'" she said. She wanted to work directly with children and parents needing counseling, and to offer the service to working parents. "In October I will have been in business six years," she said. "We serve 40 children, 16 of them infants and toddlers, with daycare and help for the whole family to minimize stresses in their relationships." Denise felt most successful when the parent of a child who had left that year to enter public kindergarten, stopped in to see her for more counseling. "I was so happy that she felt free to come in even after her child had moved on," she said; and

WHEREAS, Child Quest employs four teachers and an aide and is housed in a one-story school building in Bridgeton. Denise said that the recession has affected their business, in that for the first time they now have no waiting list. She is working with ARCHS (Area Resources for Community and Human Services) toward accreditation, having received a pre-accreditation grant from them. In 2003 or 2004 having applied for the grant, she took business training courses with the Grace Hill Women's Business Center and worked on a business plan which she completed in 2004 and went on to take Next Level Entrepreneurial classes; and

WHEREAS, she said that Kristi Kight worked with her and Lynn Steele contributed his wonderful knowledge of community resources. "People at the WBC are always willing to offer themselves," she said.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we pause in our deliberations to recognize Denise Belue for her outstanding achievement and we further direct the Clerk of this Board to spread a copy of this Resolution across the minutes of these proceedings and to prepare a commemorative copy to the end that it may be presented to our honoree at a time and place deemed appropriate by the Sponsor.

Introduced on the 12th day of March, 2010 by:

Honorable April Ford-Griffin, Alderwoman 5th Ward

Adopted this the 12th day of March, 2010 as attested by:

David W. Sweeney
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

Lewis E. Reed
President, Board of Aldermen