

**MINA'BENTE OCHO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN**  
**2006 (Second) Regular Session**

**Resolution No. 139 (EC)**

Introduced by:

L.A. Leon Guerrero *HL*  
J.T. Won Pat *JTW*  
B.J. Cruz *BJC*  
R.J. Respicio *RJR*

**Relative to recognizing and commending Alee Family Violence Shelter—Catholic Social Service on their 25<sup>th</sup> year of tireless service to the women and children of Guam.**

**BE IT RESOLVED BY I LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN:**

**WHEREAS**, Father David I.A. Quitugua, together with the Sisters of Good Shepherd played an important role in the establishment of Catholic Social Service and the first of many ministries; and

**WHEREAS**, following Public Law 15-117, that called for an abuse shelter on Guam, Catholic Social Service responded to this need and established the Alee Spouse Abuse Shelter on March 19, 1981, dedicated as a refuge and safe haven for women and children of domestic abuse and neglect designated for operation by the Sisters of Good Shepherd; and

**WHEREAS**, the name “Alee” nautical term meaning “shelter from the storm,” was thought of by the late Ricardo Castro of Sinajana, a former accountant with Catholic Social Service; and

**WHEREAS**, Alee offers round the clock operations including a confidential telephone hotline, crisis counseling, referral service, respite care, childcare service and transportation; and

**WHEREAS**, Alee is committed to ensuring the highest regard for privacy and confidentiality for the safety of every woman, child and staff member; and

**WHEREAS**, Catholic Social Service and the Sisters of Good Shepherd, as requested by the Department of Public Health and Social Services expanded the services of Alee Shelters to include a separate shelter for children, known as Alee



1 Children's Shelter in July of 1993; and

2 **WHEREAS**, Alee Children's Shelter is also an emergency receiving home  
3 whose primary objectives are to promote healing in children from the effects of abuse  
4 and neglect; to prevent unnecessary separation of siblings when removed from home,  
5 and to allow ample time for Child Protective Services (CPS)-Bureau of Social Service  
6 Administration (BOSSA) to assemble foster home matches; and

7 **WHEREAS**, the Alee Family Violence Shelter has since its founding served  
8 three thousand four hundred fifty five (3,455) women and their children, and Alee  
9 Children's Shelter has served eight hundred eleven (811) children, providing them with  
10 emergency food, clothing, and safety with the means to seek self-sufficiency; and

11 **WHEREAS**, women who seek refuge with Alee Shelter are offered  
12 opportunities to improve their general health and general status, and that of their  
13 children, by attending training courses in parenting, general health and nutrition,  
14 housekeeping, interpersonal relations and building of self esteem or self-worth; and

15 **WHEREAS**, Alee Children's Shelter provides an interruption of the cycle of the  
16 child's learning pattern of violence and to promote healthy personality development,  
17 positive interaction and build on developmental potential; and

18 **WHEREAS**, the Sisters of Good Shepherd had developed a network with other  
19 agencies and organizations to meet the growing needs of abused women and children,  
20 not only in Guam, but also other countries throughout the world; and

21 **WHEREAS**, in the twenty-five years of service to the people of Guam, Alee  
22 Family Violence Shelter had eight program directors, Sr. Anita Kristofco, RGS; Sr.  
23 Ursula Fritz, RGS; Sr. Joanne Getz, RGS; Sr. Teresa Floyd, RGS; Sr. Eileen Mearns,  
24 RGS; Sr. Marie Maurer, RGS; Sr. Nora Pat O'Flannigan, RGS and since July 22, 2003  
25 to the present, Sr. Brigid Perez, RSM (Religious Sister of Mercy); and

26 **WHEREAS**, Sr. Brigid Perez, RSM, newly appointed program director, will  
27 continue the work of the Sisters of Good Shepherd and Catholic Social Service under  
28 the direction and guidance of Ms. Cerila M. Rapadas, Executive Director; Sr. Mary  
29 Callista Camacho, RSM, Deputy Director; and Archbishop Anthony S. Apuron, OFM  
30 Cap. DD; and

1           **WHEREAS**, Sr. Brigid Perez, RSM, is impelled to commit her life and  
2 resources to act in solidarity with the economically poor of the world, especially women  
3 and children; women seeking fullness of life and equality in church and society; and in  
4 solidarity with one another as she embraces the multicultural and international reality as  
5 animated by the Gospel and foundress, Catherine McAuley’s passion for the poor; and

6           **WHEREAS**, as a member of the Family Violence Sexual Assault Task Force  
7 (FVSATF), Sr. Brigid Perez, will work harmoniously with other members to seek  
8 solutions and remedies to address the island’s family violence and child abuse issues  
9 utilizing sources available to them; and

10           **WHEREAS**, that each and every person arriving at Alee Shelters will be  
11 received with compassion and care, fulfilling the mission of Catholic Social Service, to  
12 respect the dignity of the human person; and

13           **WHEREAS**, to recognize the enormous contribution received from the diverse  
14 branches of the Armed Forces, the military personnel and their families, religious  
15 communities and organizations, that have been unending since the beginning of Alee;  
16 and now therefore be it

17           **RESOLVED**, that *I Mina’ Bente Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby,  
18 on behalf of the people of Guam, congratulate Alee Shelters on their twenty-fifth (25<sup>th</sup>)  
19 year of tireless service to the women and children of Guam; and be it further

20           **RESOLVED**, that *I Mina’ Bente Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan*  
21 recognizes and commends all the Alee staff, volunteers, professionals,  
22 government and non-governmental organizations, the community and those who  
23 in one way or another have unselfishly contributed or assisted the women and  
24 children of Guam; and be it further

25           **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker certify, and the Legislative Secretary attests to,  
26 the adoption hereof and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to the  
27 Honorable Felix P. Camacho, *I Maga’lahen Guåhan*.

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DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED ON THE \_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_, 2006.

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**Mark Forbes**  
**Speaker**

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**Eddie Calvo**  
**Senator and Legislative Secretary**