

By: Dean

H.R. No. 879

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Partners in Prevention has been selected as the 2016  
2 Citizen of the Year by the *Longview News-Journal*; and

3 WHEREAS, This annual award was created as a way of honoring  
4 the individual or group that has had the most impact on the Longview  
5 area during the previous 12 months; and

6 WHEREAS, The inaugural recipient of this prestigious  
7 accolade, Partners in Prevention was recognized for its exceptional  
8 work in addressing the underlying causes of violent crime in the  
9 Longview community; when concerned residents and organizations  
10 began coming together in response to a record number of homicides in  
11 2015, there was no established mechanism to coordinate these  
12 disparate groups, but Partners in Prevention stepped up to guide  
13 them; its Hope for Youth initiative has been particularly effective  
14 in galvanizing the efforts of local volunteers, as it focuses on  
15 encouraging young people to avoid drugs and gangs and to rededicate  
16 themselves to their education; and

17 WHEREAS, Founded in 1991, Partners in Prevention seeks to  
18 inspire hope and build trusting relationships that transform lives;  
19 the dedicated staff and volunteers contribute to such crucial  
20 programs as the Coalition for Drug-Free Youth, the East Texas  
21 Anti-Trafficking Team, Longview Bridges Out of Poverty, and the  
22 Unity and Diversity Committee; moreover, the group organizes a  
23 mentoring program that reaches students in eight school districts;  
24 and

1           WHEREAS, Over the years, Partners in Prevention has received  
2 numerous honors, including the National Night Out Outstanding  
3 Participation Award, the Governor's Volunteer Award, and the  
4 Outstanding Community Partnership in a Small District Award from  
5 the Texas Association of Partners in Education; and

6           WHEREAS, Partners in Prevention is making a lasting and  
7 positive difference in the Longview community, and it is indeed  
8 deserving of this most recent honor; now, therefore, be it

9           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas  
10 Legislature hereby congratulate Partners in Prevention on being  
11 named the 2016 *Longview News-Journal* Citizen of the Year and extend  
12 to all those associated with the organization sincere best wishes  
13 for continued success with their important work; and, be it further

14           RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
15 prepared for Partners in Prevention as an expression of high regard  
16 by the Texas House of Representatives.