WHEREAS, the YWCA Greater Pittsburgh has chosen to honor Ms. Betty Cruz as a recipient of the 2014 Racial Justice Award, an annual tribute to leaders who promote equality in society; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Cruz is currently the nonprofit and faith-based manager in the Office of Mayor William Peduto; she is responsible for building partnerships across these vital institutions, which often serve in the trenches on issues plaguing marginalized communities; she also oversees special initiatives, including Live Well Pittsburgh and Welcoming Pittsburgh; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Cruz earned a bachelor’s degree in history from Edinboro University of Pennsylvania, and a master’s degree in public administration from the University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public and International Affairs; and

WHEREAS, previously, she managed public relations for global brands, including programming in Latin America for Kodak, and U.S.-Hispanic outreach for Crest; she has also worked with at-risk youth and served with AmeriCorps VISTA; Ms. Cruz was awarded the Public Policy and International Affairs Fellowship at Carnegie Mellon University’s Heinz College; and

WHEREAS, Allegheny County is fortunate to have the leadership and dedication that Ms. Cruz brings to our region and is grateful for her work to create an equal society for all.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Allegheny County Executive Rich Fitzgerald, by virtue of the authority vested in me, do hereby congratulate Ms. Betty Cruz on receiving the 2014 Racial Justice Award and thank her for her commitment to promoting equality within our community.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the County of Allegheny to be affixed this 29th day of October, 2014.

Rich Fitzgerald