



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, thousands of individuals experience homelessness in Fort Collins each year, including more than 1,000 students in the Poudre School District. Right now, more than 300 of our residents are sleeping outside, in shelters or in their vehicles; and

WHEREAS, homelessness is a complex, community crisis and people become homeless for many reasons, including a lack of affordable housing, unemployment or underemployment, physical disabilities, substance-use disorders, mental health issues, domestic violence and more; and

WHEREAS, the City of Fort Collins is committed to a future in which homelessness is rare, short-lived and non-recurring. We can solve this crisis if we collaborate across sectors and invest wisely in best-practice interventions that help people secure and retain housing; and

WHEREAS, the City actively fosters this vision through its support of local nonprofits and other key stakeholders in government, business, education, the faith community and elsewhere who collaborate and implement evidence-based solutions each day; and

WHEREAS, the Murphy Center for Hope, operated by Homeward Alliance, is the hub of services for people who are homeless or-at risk in Fort Collins, hosting 20 independent nonprofits that collectively provide more than 40 services to thousands of individuals each year; and

WHEREAS, in its ongoing effort to expand community awareness about the issue of homelessness, promote critical dialogue, inspire solution-oriented action and unite the community-those with housing and those without-the Murphy Center is hosting multiple events during the first week of December, including two feature events: the Murphy Center Community Dinner on December 6 and the Mission to Hope Walk on December 7.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Wade Troxell, Mayor of the City of Fort Collins, do hereby declare the week of December 1 through December 7, 2019 as

HOMELESSNESS AWARENESS WEEK

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the seal of the City of Fort Collins this 3rd day of December, A.D. 2019.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk