



PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS,** THE MOST RECENT DATA SHOWS THAT 6,107 PERSONS IN THE CITY OF DES MOINES HAVE EXPERIENCED HOMELESSNESS WITHIN THE LAST YEAR; AND
- WHEREAS,** HOMELESSNESS AND / OR HUNGER IS A DEVASTATING EXPERIENCE CAUSING DISRUPTION IN FAMILIES, LOSS OF HOME AND PERSONAL DIGNITY; AND
- WHEREAS,** 1,832 OF HOMELESS PERSONS RECEIVING ASSISTANCE IN 2008 WERE CHILDREN; AND
- WHEREAS,** THE MEMBERS OF THE POLK COUNTY HOUSING CONTINUUM RESPOND TO THE NEEDS OF THOSE EXPERIENCING HUNGER AND HOMELESSNESS, WITH FOOD, CLOTHING, SHELTER, SERVICES AND PERMANENT HOUSING; AND
- WHEREAS,** WE URGE ALL CITIZENS TO JOIN IN RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANT ROLES WE EACH CAN PLAY IN MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES WHO ARE HUNGRY AND HOMELESS IN OUR COMMUNITY.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, T. M. FRANKLIN COWNIE, ON BEHALF OF THE CITY COUNCIL AND THE CITIZENS OF DES MOINES, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 15 - 21, 2009, AS:

HUNGER AND HOMELESS AWARENESS WEEK

IN DES MOINES, IOWA AND WE URGE ALL CITIZENS TO RECOGNIZE THE SEVERE DEVASTATION FACED BY PERSONS EXPERIENCING HUNGER AND HOMELESSNESS AND TO SUPPORT LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS IN THEIR EFFORTS TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF THOSE WHO ARE HUNGRY AND HOMELESS.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I HAVE HEREUNTO SET MY HAND AND CAUSED THE SEAL OF THE CITY OF DES MOINES, IOWA TO BE AFFIXED THIS NINTH DAY OF NOVEMBER, TWO THOUSAND NINE.

**T. M. FRANKLIN COWNIE, MAYOR
CITY OF DES MOINES**

