

**PROCLAMATION
OF THE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT**

WHEREAS, the theme of National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week is BEING HOMELESS IS NOT A CRIME AND HOUSING IS A HUMAN RIGHT; and

WHEREAS, people from all walks of life, including individuals, families with children, employed and unemployed workers, elderly residents, veterans, disabled individuals, youth and individuals are impacted by hunger and homelessness; and

WHEREAS, the community recognizes that hunger and homelessness continue to be a serious problem for many individuals and families living in Humboldt County and no one should have to worry about whether they will have food on their plate or a roof over their head; and

WHEREAS, the California Center for Rural Policy reported in their Humboldt County Food Assessment that hunger is a daily experience and that more than 31% of adults experience food insecurity while 37% of households with children experience food insecurity. Most live on fixed incomes or survive paycheck to paycheck; and

WHEREAS, hunger is a daily experience for many people in Humboldt County with more than 40% of low-income adults experiencing food insecurity, over 17% of seniors, and 28% of children living in poverty which more than doubles to 57% if the household is led by a single parent; and

WHEREAS, while homelessness creates barriers to accessing essential services, such as affordable health care, housing, child care and education, the cost of these necessities often contribute to hunger, food insecurity and people experiencing homelessness on any given night; and

WHEREAS, the aim for the National Coalition for Homelessness is to eradicate homelessness by solving the root causes of it; to educate the public about the many reasons people are hungry and homeless including the shortage of affordable housing for low-income residents; and to encourage support for the organizations committed to sheltering, providing supportive services as well as meals, food supplies, clothing, and hygiene products to the homeless and hungry; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that November 13-21, 2021 shall be known, designated, and set aside as NATIONAL HUNGER & HOMELESSNESS AWARENESS WEEK and encourages all people in the community to work together to find meaningful solutions for these problems.

November 9, 2021

Virginia Bass, Chair

