

Proclamation



Jane Castor, Mayor

WHEREAS, since 1975, the National Coalition for the Homeless and the National Student Campaign Against Hunger and Homelessness have sponsored **National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week** held during the week prior to Thanksgiving, and since its first event held at Villanova University, this awareness program has grown to include more than 700 colleges, high schools and community groups across the nation; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of this initiative is to educate the public about the many reasons why people are hungry and homeless including the shortage of affordable housing for extremely low-income residents, unemployment, medical bills, and other financial hardships, and to encourage support for homeless assistance service providers; and

WHEREAS, no one should have to worry about whether they or the members of their family will have food to eat or a roof over their head, but hunger and homelessness are a reality with approximately 13.1 million Americans living below the poverty level, 43 million of them at risk or suffering from hunger, and they often have to choose between basic necessities including food, rent and medical needs; and

WHEREAS, everyone can play a role in making homeless individuals and families achieve success including neighborhood associations, faith-based and community organizations, businesses, nonprofits, policy makers, resource agencies, service providers, and ordinary citizens, and during the Thanksgiving season, as we take time to be thankful with our family and friends, and it is important we consider those less fortunate and plan to participate in anti-poverty campaigns and initiatives; and

WHEREAS, locally, the members of Women Helping Others Tampa Bay (W.H.O.), whose motto is *Making the Community Better One Day at a Time*, are hosting a **Feeding the Less Fortunate** event at Borrell Park in Tampa, Florida during National Hunger and Homeless Awareness Week, and the event includes food, clothing and resources for those suffering with hunger and homelessness.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jane Castor, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim November 16-24, 2019 as

“NATIONAL HUNGER AND HOMELESSNESS AWARENESS WEEK”

in the city of Tampa, Florida, and encourage all citizens to recognize the services needed by those less fortunate in our community and encourage the support of all private and public non-profit service organizations in working to meet these needs.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 25th day of October, 2019.





Mayor