

City of Orlando Proclamation

WHEREAS, each year the month of November is designated as *National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Month* and this year, the week of November 15-23 is designated as *National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week*; and

WHEREAS, Coalition for the Homeless of Central Florida and the City of Orlando are joining with communities across the United States during that week to bring greater understanding and awareness of the realities of hunger and homelessness, with special activities, such as a human *Chain of Hope*, to take place in the City of Orlando on Friday, November 21, 2014; and

WHEREAS, the fastest-growing segment of the homeless population, both nationally and in Central Florida, is families with children, as represented by the more than 400 families with over 800 children that Coalition for the Homeless served last year; and

WHEREAS, on an average night, Coalition for the Homeless of Central Florida provides food, shelter and services to more than 600 men, women and children, more than 150 of whom are children with an average age of eight years old, in over 70 families; and

WHEREAS, the City of Orlando and Orange County Government funded the capital construction of the Coalition's new Men's Service Center, which began operation in June 2014 and is enabling the Coalition to assist homeless men as never before; and

WHEREAS, the City of Orlando has committed \$1 million for the next three years to provide permanent supportive housing for 300 chronically homeless individuals in Orlando; and

WHEREAS, on November 21, we will turn the Lake Eola fountain, Amway Center Tower and City Hall Tower of Light purple and encourage the community to also wear purple, to promote hunger and homelessness awareness in order to illustrate that our community can help make a difference in the lives of our neighbors in need.

NOW THEREFORE I, Buddy Dyer, Mayor of the City of Orlando, hereby do proclaim the day of Friday, November 21, 2014 as:

"HUNGER AND HOMELESSNESS AWARENESS DAY"

In the City of Orlando.