PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the first recognition and awareness event for Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week was held at Villanova University in 1975 and this past year more than 700 community groups, faith-based groups, colleges, and high schools across the country came together during the week to raise awareness about the pressing issue of hunger and homelessness; and

WHEREAS, for 51 years the National Coalition for the Homeless and National Student Campaign Against Hunger and Homelessness have sponsored National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week; and

WHEREAS, approximately 34.5 million Americans live below the poverty level, about 770,000 Americans experience homeless on any given night, and, worldwide, six children die each minute of a hunger-related disease.

WHEREAS, the purpose of this proclamation is to bring awareness to the public about the hungry and homeless in our community and to encourage support for hunger and homeless assistance service providers; and

WHEREAS, there are many local organizations committed to sheltering and providing supportive services as well as meals and food supplies to people experiencing hunger and homelessness including: DuPage PADS, Midwest Shelter for Homeless Veterans, Alex's Mission, Downers Grove Area FISH, West Suburban Community Pantry, People's Resource Center, Hope's Front Door, Catholic Charities and many other faith and community-based service providers; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Robert T. Barnett, Mayor of the Village of Downers Grove, do hereby proclaim the week of November 15th through 21st as **HUNGER AND HOMELESSNESS AWARENESS WEEK** in the Village of Downers Grove and urge all our citizens to look for opportunities to help, volunteer and support the organizations working to serve our community and, as Thanksgiving approaches, take time to consider opportunities to donate time, attention and resources to others.

Dated this 10th day of November 2026, at Downers Grove, Illinois.

Mayor