

**A PROCLAMATION OF THE
CITY OF FLAGLER BEACH
RECOGNIZING THE MONTH OF JULY 2024
AS CHRISTMAS COME TRUE MONTH**

WHEREAS, family poverty transcends race, religion, and ethnicity and is one of the greatest challenges to not only the family, but for our entire community which suffers the consequences of its many negative and depressing effects on our children. The reality is that over 40 % are between families in poverty and those who are **in an Asset Limited, Income Constrained, employed households that earn above the Florida Poverty Level but cannot afford the basic cost of living in this county. Out of the 163 families with 468 children we served this year, 40% have medical issues, of that 10% were disabled. 99 of those Children have varying levels of special needs.**

WHEREAS, Christmas Come True is a non-profit organization that has been serving Flagler County for 15 years and has addressed the many aspects of family poverty in Flagler County including food distribution, financial assistance with housing, utilities, transportation, furniture, home goods and medical expenses. Christmas Come True has invested over \$165,000.00 in assistance throughout the year, without including the yearly Christmas distribution. Since 2009, this distribution consists of a complete personalized Christmas experience for a total of 1831 families with 5195 children by providing a Christmas Dinner, new clothing, toys, gifts, and Christmas stockings filled with hygiene products and assorted goodies.

WHEREAS, Christmas Come True is a non-profit organization in Flagler County that provides free furniture and home goods through their Begin Again Home Goods store for families in crisis. In 2024 alone, Christmas Come True has given out 12 Beds & Bedding, Dressers, Kitchen tables, Sofas, Kitchenware, and more.

WHEREAS, Christmas Come True is planning an expansion of their mission and support system by incorporating, **Innovative Community Resource Solutions**, a community-based Center creating the tools for makers, creators, innovators, and visionaries to bring their dreams to life. A diversified, multi-generational collaboration to grow new careers and businesses.

WHEREAS, The increased high cost of living has resulted in many more families suffering a devastating loss of income, Christmas In July events will enable Christmas Come True to provide additional assistance with food, rent, car payments, car registrations, car insurance, furniture and home goods to those High-Risk families.

WHEREAS, this recognition also allows the community to support working together to create an environment where people can share their time, treasure, and talents to help the families who were affected by the devastating effects of poverty and the high cost of living.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE CITY OF FLAGLER BEACH, that they hereby declare the month of JULY 2024 as CHRISTMAS COME TRUE MONTH in Flagler Beach and further recognize that it takes a dedicated community to stand together and make a positive difference. Together, we can break the cycle and impact the lives of future generations.

Adopted this ____ day of July 2024.

ATTEST: _____ City of Flagler Beach, Florida
