

# Proclamation

## ***NATIONAL HUNGER AND HOMELESSNESS AWARENESS MONTH***

WHEREAS, the National Coalition for the Homeless is the sponsor of and have set November 2023 as National Hunger and Homelessness Month and November 13 – 21, 2023, as National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the proclamation is to educate the public about the many reasons people are hungry and homeless including the shortage of affordable housing in Itasca County for low-income residents; and to encourage support for homeless assistance service providers as well as community service opportunities for students and school service organizations; and

WHEREAS, the intent of Hunger and Homelessness Awareness month is consistent with local organizations who are committed to sheltering, providing supportive services as well as meals, basic needs and supplies to the homeless including; Kootasca Community Action, AEOA, Grace House, Northland Counseling Center, Salvation Army, Itasca County Veterans Services, Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe, Itasca County Health and Human Services, First Call for Help, Advocates for Family Peace and other Itasca Housing Resource Team members; and

WHEREAS, the Grand Rapids City Council recognizes that hunger and homelessness continues to be a serious problem for many individuals and families in the City of Grand Rapids; and

WHEREAS, people experiencing unsheltered homelessness (those sleeping outside or in places not meant for human habitation) may be at risk for poor health conditions. Lack of housing contributes to poor physical and mental health outcomes, and connections to permanent housing for people experiencing homelessness should continue to be a priority.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Dale Christy, Mayor of the City of Grand Rapids, hereby proclaim the month of November 2023 as Grand Rapids Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Month and November 13 – 21, 2023 as Grand Rapids Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Grand Rapids City Council encourages all citizens to recognize that many people do not have housing and need support from citizens, and private/public non-profit service entities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereto subscribed my name and the seal of the City of Grand Rapids, Minnesota, this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of October, Two thousand twenty-three.

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Dale Christy, Mayor  
City of Grand Rapids