



# Proclamation

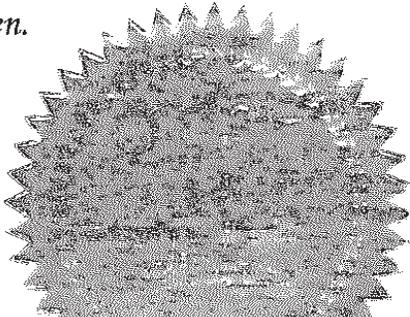
- Whereas:* The City of Virginia Beach is committed to ending homelessness in our City as a fundamental aspect of a healthy community by 2017; and
- Whereas:* The purpose of this proclamation is to increase knowledge and understanding of people who are experiencing homelessness or who are at risk of becoming homeless due to multiple causes; and
- Whereas:* It is necessary to inform citizens that the City of Virginia Beach has a Ten Year Plan to End Homelessness which focuses on three main areas -- homeless prevention, creation of affordable housing opportunities, and preservations of existing affordable housing; and
- Whereas:* There are many partnerships locally, regionally and nationally, involved to assist with this community-wide approach to eliminating homelessness in our City; and
- Whereas:* We have many engaged organizations committed to sheltering and providing supportive services as well as meals and food supplies to people experiencing homelessness; and
- Whereas:* No person in this City should go to bed hungry or without a safe place to live; and while government, congregations, social service agencies, and hundreds of volunteers are working every day to feed and house those most in need, more help and solutions are still needed; and
- Whereas:* The City of Virginia Beach is committed to the elimination of homelessness for all people.

*Now, Therefore, I, William D. Sessoms, Jr., Mayor of the City of Virginia Beach, Virginia, do hereby Proclaim:*

## December 16 -21, 2013 Homelessness Awareness Week

*In Virginia Beach, and I encourage all citizens to acquaint themselves with homeless issues, to support homeless advocates, to recognize the good works performed by homeless heroes, and to work together to support those citizens in dire need of assistance by participating in this observance.*

*In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Official Seal of the City of Virginia Beach, Virginia, to be affixed this Twenty-First day of December, Two Thousand Thirteen.*



William D. Sessoms, Jr.