LAKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
PROCLAMATION

November 14, 2019

DECLARING NOVEMBER 16-24, 2019, AS NATIONAL HUNGER AND HOMELESSNESS AWARENESS WEEK IN LAKE COUNTY, OHIO

WHEREAS, the National Coalition for the Homeless and National Student Campaign Against Hunger and Homelessness have annually sponsored National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week for nine days in November each year; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of this proclamation is to educate the public about the many reasons why people are hungry and homeless including but not limited to the shortage of affordable housing for very low-income residents, untreated mental health illness and/or chemical dependency, unexpected job loss or health crisis; and to encourage support for homeless assistance service providers; and

WHEREAS, Project Hope for the Homeless in Painesville Township, Ohio, is the only emergency shelter in Lake County and is committed to providing people experiencing homelessness with meals and along with sheltering, supplies and supportive services, and referrals to partnering agencies for additional services; and

WHEREAS, Project Hope for the Homeless has operated in Lake County since 1993 serving more than 5,000 guests including 471 guests and 65 children in 2018; and

WHEREAS, Project Hope for the Homeless currently has a 90 percent success rate of guests transitioning to a positive housing situation when leaving the care of the shelter after an average stay of 32 days; and

WHEREAS, an effective Aftercare Program for guests who complete their stay at Project Hope for the Homeless helps keep the recidivism rate of former guests to less than 10 percent; and

WHEREAS, National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week celebrated annually in the month of November for 9 days is consistent with the activities of Project Hope for the Homeless.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of County Commissioners, in and for Lake County, Ohio, proclaim November 16-24, 2019, as National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week, and encourages all citizens to recognize that many people do not have housing and need support from citizens, and private/public nonprofit service entities.

JERRY C. CIRINO, PRESIDENT

JOHN R. HAMERCHECK

RON YOUNG