

PROCLAMATION

Homeless Youth Awareness Month November 2022

WHEREAS, youth are identified as homeless when they live in an emergency shelter, share housing with others due to economic hardship, stay at motels, live in cars, parks, public places, tents, trailers, or other similar settings; and

WHEREAS, as many as 2.5 million youth per year experience homelessness; and

WHEREAS, runaway and homeless youth often flee conflict, abuse, or poverty in their homes; and

WHEREAS, along with losing their home, community, friends, and routines as well as their sense of stability and safety, many homeless youth are also victims of trauma; and

WHEREAS, while trying to survive on the streets, youth are exposed to countless dangers, with an increased likelihood of substance abuse, early parenthood, depression, post-traumatic stress disorder, and vulnerability to being trafficked; and

WHEREAS, they can become disconnected from educational systems and the workforce and do not have the skills and financial resources to live on their own; and

WHEREAS, some youth are at greater risk of experiencing homelessness, especially those who have less than a high school diploma or GED, with a greater risk to those who are low-income, LGBTQ+, non-white, or parenting;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Alexander D. Johnson II, Mayor of the City of Albany, do hereby proclaim November 2022, as

Homeless Youth Awareness Month

in Albany, and I call upon residents to reach out to their local youth service shelters and non-profits to volunteer support for the work they are doing in the community, and to remember that homeless youth are kids in bad situations.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Albany to be affixed this 26th day of October 2022.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alexander D. Johnson II".

Alexander D. Johnson II, Mayor