

CITY OF HYATTSVILLE

PROCLAMATION

RECOGNIZING DECEMBER 21, 2024, AS NATIONAL HOMELESS PERSONS' MEMORIAL DAY IN THE CITY OF HYATTSVILLE

This proclamation declares December 21, 2024, to be National Homeless Persons' Memorial Day in the City of Hyattsville. This is a day to remember those people who died during the year without housing; those who too often, were not connected to family or support systems who could hold a funeral or properly honor them.

WHEREAS, December 21, 2024, marks the first day of winter and the longest night of the year. Since 1990 it has been designated National Homeless Persons' Memorial Day by the National Coalition for The Homeless and the National Health Care for The Homeless Council; and

WHEREAS housing is a basic human need and fundamental right, which protects people from preventable instances of illness, violence, and death; for some Hyattsville residents, homelessness continues to be a serious impediment to food, housing, clothing, safety, and health care access; and

WHEREAS the winter season poses extreme hardship for 568 unsheltered and inadequately housed low-income adults and children in Prince George's County, which marks a 45% increase since 2020; and

WHEREAS the spirit of the season provides an opportunity for a city-wide recommitment to initiatives supporting people experiencing homelessness and enacting policies to decrease the pervasiveness of such a condition; and

WHEREAS in remembering those unhoused community members who have died on the streets, the cause of ending homelessness and its adverse effects is kept urgent, as is the city's collective commitment to preventing such deaths in the future.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and City Council declare December 21, 2024, as National Homeless Persons' Memorial Day to celebrate the memory of those who have died while unhoused and to encourage Hyattsville City Government and residents to come together to address the preventable systemic factors that lead to homelessness.

Robert Croslin

Mayor, City of Hyattsville

December 16th, 2024

