



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Ben Walsh, Mayor

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Blessings in a Backpack is a nonprofit organization established to alleviate the hunger experienced by nearly 13 million school-aged children during the gap between school days by uniting volunteer networks, individuals in the community, and local resources to provide food on weekends for children who may otherwise go hungry; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the 2020 global coronavirus pandemic, the number of children at risk of experiencing hunger beyond weekends when school is not in session has grown to 18 million in need of food; and

WHEREAS, one significant way that children living in the City of Syracuse experience poverty is in the form of childhood hunger, due to living in food deserts and lacking access to planned and nutritious meals; and

WHEREAS, Blessings in a Backpack has provided comfort and stability in the form of pre-planned nourishment for nearly 84,000 children nationally, and has increased to 87,000 since mid-March; more than 1,200 children within the Syracuse City School District have been served at various schools including Clary Middle School, Delaware Primary School, Franklin Elementary School, STEAM at Dr. King Elementary School and Seymour Dual Language Academy; and

WHEREAS, Blessings in a Backpack Week reinforces the importance of our community's efforts in the elimination of hunger, and demonstrates a commitment and dedication to the future and well-being of youth in the City of Syracuse.

NOW, THEREFORE, I BEN WALSH, Mayor of the City of Syracuse, hereby proclaim the Week of September Twelfth to September Eighteenth, Two Thousand and Twenty-One to be

Blessings in a Backpack Week

In the City of Syracuse

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Syracuse to be imprinted on this Thirteenth Day of September, Two Thousand and Twenty-One.

Ben Walsh
Mayor