



## PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS,** public schools and early childhood programs across America reported a record 1.5 million children and youth experiencing homelessness earlier this year. In the midst of the current crisis and with nearly 23,000 homeless students in Colorado, connecting youth and families to educational services is even more important, as this number is expected to spike; and
- WHEREAS,** nearly 2,700 unaccompanied youth in and out of school across Colorado are homeless or at risk of homelessness; and
- WHEREAS,** Adams 12 Five Star Schools estimates nearly 1,000 students that identify as homeless in the district, including approximately 225 students who attend Northglenn schools; and
- WHEREAS,** youth of color are disproportionately experiencing homelessness when compared to the total population of Colorado, and nearly half of all youth without housing continue to report first experiencing homelessness with a parent or guardian; and
- WHEREAS,** young people who experience instability due to homelessness are at an increased risk of dropping out of school as these students often lack access to social and economic supports that provide opportunity to post-secondary education; and
- WHEREAS,** a student who does not graduate is 4.5 times more likely to experience homelessness than their peers who completed high school, and the value of education is critical to ending the cycle of homelessness; and
- WHEREAS,** the City of Northglenn has established the Homelessness Community Task Force to recommend compassionate solutions to this increasing issue for not only youth but also adults; and
- WHEREAS,** COVID-19 has heightened the importance of collaborative efforts to address youth homelessness, thereby ensuring every young person has access to the supports that lead to a healthy and productive life.

**NOW THEREFORE, I,** Meredith Leighty, Mayor of the City of Northglenn, Colorado do hereby proclaim November 2020 as

### **RUNAWAY AND HOMELESS YOUTH AWARENESS MONTH**

in the City of Northglenn.

Dated, at Northglenn, Colorado, this 9<sup>th</sup> day of November 2020.

  
MEREDITH LEIGHTY  
Mayor

