

## #P2007-02

### Proclamation In Support of Hunger Awareness Day

- Whereas, Food insecurity and hunger are a fact of life for hundreds of thousands of low-income citizens of northern Illinois and can produce physical, mental, and social impairments;
- Whereas, The problem of hunger and food insecurity can be found in rural, suburban, and urban portions of northern Illinois, touching many families and individuals throughout;
- Whereas, Progress has been made in reducing the incidence of hunger and food insecurity in **DeKalb County**, certain populations remain vulnerable to hunger and the negative effects of food deprivation, including the working poor, the elderly, the homeless, children, and migrant workers;
- Whereas, The people of **DeKalb County** have a long tradition of providing food assistance to hungry people through acts of private generosity and public support programs;
- Whereas, The State of Illinois provides essential nutritional support to millions of low-income people through the administration of numerous Federal and State food assistance programs, including--
- (1) the Federal Food Stamp Program, as established by the Food Stamp Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.);
  - (2) child nutrition programs, such as the National School Lunch Program and Summer Food Service Program; and
  - (3) food donation programs, such as The Emergency Food Assistance Program, Commodity Supplemental Food Program;
- Whereas, There is a growing awareness of the important public and private partnership role that community-based organizations, institutions of faith, and charities provide in assisting hungry and food-insecure people;
- Whereas, A diverse group of organizations have documented substantial increases in requests for emergency food assistance during the last year with numerous families relying on food banks to secure food; and
- Whereas, Northern Illinois Food Bank, in partnership with more than 520 food assistance sites, has committed its support to America's Second Harvest – The Nation's Food Bank Network for the Hunger Awareness Campaign to provide additional resources to combat hunger;
- Whereas, Additional donations, funding or volunteer support generated by the nationwide Hunger Awareness Campaign will benefit the 275,008 hungry people in need of food assistance in the 13 counties served by Northern Illinois Food Bank with valuable food resources, including the **8,624** individuals living at or below poverty in **DeKalb County** and;
- Whereas, All citizens of northern Illinois can help participate in hunger relief efforts in their communities by donating food and money, volunteering, and supporting public policies aimed at reducing hunger;

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that the **DeKalb County Board and County Board Chair Ruth Anne Tobias does:**

- (1) designate June 5, 2007, as 'Hunger Awareness Day';
- (2) call on the people of the **DeKalb County** to observe Hunger Awareness Day with
  - (A) appropriate ceremonies, volunteer activities, and other support for local anti-hunger advocacy efforts and hunger relief charities, including food banks, food rescue organizations, food pantries, soup kitchens, and emergency shelters; and
  - (B) support of programs and public policies to reduce hunger and food insecurity in the **Illinois**;
- (3) authorize the office of **DeKalb County Board Chair Ruth Anne Tobias** and the concerned members of the **DeKalb County Board** and staff to assist families suffering from hunger and food insecurity in **DeKalb County** to participate in Hunger Awareness activities throughout the month of June 2007.

PASSED AT SYCAMORE, ILLINOIS, THIS 16<sup>th</sup> DAY OF MAY 2007, A.D.



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Ruth Anne Tobias, Chairman  
DeKalb County Board