The State of New Hampshire
By His Excellency
Christopher T. Sununu, Governor

A Proclamation

In the year of our Lord Two Thousand and Nineteen

HOMELESS MEMORIAL DAY
DECEMBER 21, 2019

WHEREAS, the first day of winter and the longest night of the year is an appropriate time to reflect upon the struggles faced by our homeless citizens, and residents across New Hampshire will gather to honor and remember individuals who have died while homeless in New Hampshire; and

WHEREAS, adequate housing is essential for healthy families and communities, and the State of New Hampshire, along with local towns and cities are working to offer more housing solutions and make housing an affordable reality for those who are homeless; and

WHEREAS, the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services is working tirelessly to improve the number of shelter beds and housing services to individuals seeking more permanent housing options, partnering with federal, local and private organizations to help families get off the streets; and

WHEREAS, 4,230 New Hampshire citizens were served in State funded homeless shelters this year, including 418 families and 820 children, with the average stay in an emergency shelter lasting 62 days; and

WHEREAS, untold numbers of homeless families are living with friends and family members without the fundamental security of a safe and warm place to call home; and

WHEREAS, we are right to honor those we have lost, to encourage all stakeholders to help our local communities in making sure that we never lose sight of the need to bring our citizens into long term housing;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNU, GOVERNOR of the State of New Hampshire, do hereby proclaim DECEMBER 21, 2019 as HOMELESS MEMORIAL DAY in the State of New Hampshire and call this day to the attention of all citizens.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the State of New Hampshire to be affixed this 11th day of December, 2019.

Christopher T. Sununu
Governor