

Resolution



ORDER NO: 2018-1349

DATE: November 20, 2018

STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF DALLAS §

BE IT REMEMBERED, at a regular meeting of the Commissioners Court of Dallas County, Texas, held on the 20th day of November, 2018, on a motion made by Dr. Theresa M. Daniel, Commissioner of District 1, and seconded by John Wiley Price, Commissioner of District 3, the following Resolution was adopted:

WHEREAS, November is Homelessness Awareness Month and National Hunger & Homelessness Awareness Week is the week before Thanksgiving each year. This is a time for us all to think about what we are thankful for, a perfect time to share our compassion with our neighbors who are experiencing homelessness, and work toward a world where no one has to experience hunger or homelessness; and

WHEREAS, The solutions to homelessness are bigger than any of us and we must resolve to work together. As the holidays approach, many choose to donate some of their time, attention, and resources to others. As temperatures are dropping, there is no better time than now to think about the impact of providing food and shelter for those in need; and

WHEREAS, We recognize that hunger and homelessness continues to be a serious problem for many individuals and families in Dallas County. The shortage of affordable housing in Dallas County and the surrounding areas has made it difficult for those experiencing homelessness to find appropriate housing. The 2018 Dallas County point-in-time count revealed 4,140 people who don't have a stable place to live. This represents a 9% increase in overall homelessness and a 23% increase in those with no shelter from 2017; and


WHEREAS, Criminalizing homelessness is ineffective, and costs more money than solving the problem by ensuring access to housing. Dallas County is making strides in diversion from jail and in healthcare to make sure those who need shelter are not in jail because of that need; and

WHEREAS, There are many organizations committed to sheltering and providing supportive services as well as meals and food supplies to people experiencing homelessness including: The Bridge, Family Gateway, CitySquare, Catholic Charities, the Stewpot and many other private and charitable organizations; and


WHEREAS, All persons experiencing homelessness should have access to affordable housing, education, health care, employment, income, and other opportunities and services that allow all to live with dignity.

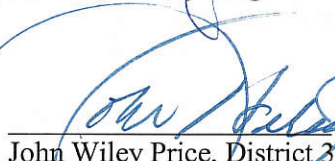
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Dallas County Commissioners Court does hereby proclaim November 2018 as Homelessness Awareness Month and encourages all citizens to recognize that many people do not have housing and need support from citizens, local governments and private/public nonprofit service entities.

DONE IN OPEN COURT, this the 20th day of November, 2018.


Clay Lewis Jenkins, County Judge


Dr. Theresa M. Daniel, District 1


Mike Cantrell, District 2


John Wiley Price, District 3


Dr. Elba Garcia, District 4