

PROCLAMATION

ONE CITY. ONE JACKSONVILLE

WHEREAS: Childhood hunger can cause lifelong health problems, such as a weakened

immune system, increased hospitalization rates, and impaired neural

development; and

WHEREAS: Consistent nutrition among children contributes to better test scores,

improved reading skills, positive behavior, improved health, and increased

school attendance; and

WHEREAS: In Duval County, one in five children is food insecure, meaning they do not

always know where their next meal will come from; and

WHEREAS: Blessings in a Backpack is a national 501(c)3 organization that, through an

all-volunteer network, mobilizes communities, individuals and resources to provide food on the weekends for elementary school children across

Northeast Florida who might otherwise go hungry; and

WHEREAS: Blessings in a Backpack provides school children who are in the Federal Free

and Reduced Lunch Program with food to take home on weekends during the

school year; and

WHEREAS: Relying on the generosity of donors, First Coast Blessings in a Backpack

volunteers are able to pack low-preparation, nutritious staples for children in 11 Duval County Public Schools. A \$100 donation feeds a child each weekend

for an entire school year; and

WHEREAS: The City of Jacksonville supports all efforts to improve the health and

wellness of our children, so that they may be successful in school and have

every opportunity to achieve in life.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LENNY CURRY, by virtue of the authority vested in me as mayor of Jacksonville, Florida, do hereby proclaim September 27, 2019 as

BLESSINGS IN A BACKPACK DAY

in Jacksonville and encourage all citizens to recognize the organization's efforts in fighting childhood hunger in Northeast Florida and across the country.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, this 21st day of August in the year Two Thousand Nineteen

Cenny Curry MAYOR