

# Proclamation

Office of the Mayor



WHEREAS, each year more than 2.5 million children across the country experience at least one night of homelessness; and

WHEREAS, Kern County Superintendent of Schools has identified more than 5,000 children that qualify as homeless per the McKinney-Vento Act; and

WHEREAS, Kern County's 2019 Point in Time Count identified 100 homeless youth, ages 18-21, with 60% of them unsheltered. Those 100 homeless youth accounted for 8% of the overall homeless population counted in Kern County; and

WHEREAS, in addition to losing their homes, many homeless youth will also lose family, friends, a sense of stability and safety, and an increased likelihood of substance abuse, early parenthood, and vulnerability to being trafficked; and

WHEREAS, local organizations, including the Kern County Homeless Collaborative-Homeless Youth Outreach Committee, are working to promote youth well-being and educate the public on potential dangers youth experience while homeless,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Karen Goh, Mayor of the City of Bakersfield, do hereby proclaim November 2019, as

## **"National Homeless Youth Awareness Month"**

in our city, and urge all citizens to support organizations that provide services and resources to help homeless youth.

DATED, at Bakersfield, California, this 6<sup>th</sup> day of November 2019.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Karen Goh", is written over a horizontal line.

Karen K. Goh  
Mayor of the City of Bakersfield