

## PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, the Committee on Temporary Shelter (COTS) has determinedly served Vermonters who are homeless by providing emergency shelter, transitional and permanent housing, advocacy and support services for the past 30 years; and

**WHEREAS**, COTS believes in the inherent value and dignity of every human life, that housing is a fundamental human right, and that emergency shelter is not the solution to homelessness; and

**WHEREAS**, COTS advocates for long-term solutions to end homelessness, through innovative prevention and rapid re-housing strategies; and

**WHEREAS**, COTS has helped 1,319 households avoid eviction or foreclosure and avert the crisis of homelessness entirely, and


**WHEREAS**, COTS hastened the move from shelter to permanent homes for 707 households with security deposit assistance; and

**WHEREAS**, COTS has demonstrated exceptional commitment and dedication to the needs of our most vulnerable community members, more than 2,000 Vermonters each year, including homeless families, disabled adults, the elderly, and veterans; and

**WHEREAS**, COTS has strengthened the spirit of service in Burlington by engaging thousands of residents, of all ages, as volunteers in the work of helping our poorest neighbors; and

**WHEREAS**, COTS continues to create innovative and effective solutions to prevent and end homelessness, as we envision a future in which COTS services are no longer necessary;

**NOW THEREFORE**, I, Miro Weinberger, Mayor of the City of Burlington, do hereby commend the Committee on Temporary Shelter for its outstanding services, enduring advocacy, and for its vital role in making Burlington such a caring community.

  
Miro Weinberger  
Mayor

