



City of St. Charles

I L L I N O I S

Proclamation

ST. CHARLES, IL – LAZARUS HOUSE GOOD NEIGHBOR DAY

- WHEREAS** Lazarus House, which was founded in 1997 by a group of concerned citizens under the leadership and direction of Darlene Marcusson as a 501(c)3 not-for-profit emergency homeless shelter located in St. Charles;
- WHEREAS** Lazarus House is open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, to all men, women and children who can prove a connection to St. Charles, Geneva, Batavia and "western-rural Kane County" and provides hospitality, food, safe shelter, and support services to those who are homeless or in need, and;
- WHEREAS** Lazarus House provides assessment services and case management to address the problems that cause homelessness, and referrals to a variety of external professional resources as appropriate to address mental health, substance abuse, and health or other issues, and;
- WHEREAS** Lazarus House's Women and Children's Day Center program provides separate enhanced space for women and children to help them focus on and more effectively achieve their goals, and more individualized attention and support as well as classes specific to women's issues, and;
- WHEREAS** Lazarus House's Center for Transitional Living program provides individual rooms, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year, and thus, space for families to stay together and increased supportive services to address the unique problems that families face, and a more specialized case management plan to meet the needs of families with the goal of them attaining permanent independence, and;
- WHEREAS** Lazarus House's Outreach Program provides one-time rent, mortgage, and utility assistance to those who qualify to help them maintain their housing; and ongoing rental subsidy to qualifying households; personal budget assistance for program participants; referrals to other community resources; and case management, if desired; and Lazarus House continues to meet its goal of giving all those coming through its doors the opportunity to have hope and a future by receiving, not a hand-out, but a hand-up, and;
- WHEREAS** Lazarus House is a sterling model of community-based support in that its approximately 1,800 volunteers, in their consistent demonstration of compassion and generosity, create a growing foundation of caring that make each one of them individually, and all of them as a whole, the literal definition of good neighbors and therefore, outstanding role models for our city's younger generation who are the future stewards of our community.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Donald P. DeWitte, Mayor of the City of St. Charles, along with the St. Charles City Council, do hereby proclaim that June 19, in perpetuity, shall hereby be known as **LAZARUS HOUSE GOOD NEIGHBOR DAY** in the City of St. Charles.

SEAL:

Donald P. DeWitte, Mayor