

# CITY OF YAKIMA PROCLAMATION

*WHEREAS, adequate housing is essential for healthy communities; and*

*WHEREAS, winter poses a hardship to the 180 unsheltered women, men, youth, and children counted in this year's Point in Time count in Yakima County and another 351 in emergency shelters; and*

*WHEREAS, more than 40 individuals in our community are known to have died this year who have lived without a permanent, safe place to call home as well as those unknown to us who have died too soon because of the experience of homelessness; and*

*WHEREAS, December 21<sup>st</sup> is National Homeless Persons' Memorial Day as designated by the National Coalition for the Homeless and the National Health Care for the Homeless Council, and*

*WHEREAS, in recognition of the special challenges and trauma the pandemic has presented to communities nationwide this year, citizens of Yakima are encouraged to promote compassion and generosity for all people, especially the poor and the homeless.*

*NOW, THEREFORE, I Patricia Byers, Mayor of the City of Yakima and on behalf of the City Council, do hereby proclaim Saturday, December 21, 2020, as*

## *"Homeless Persons' Memorial Day"*

*in the City of Yakima and ask all residents to take a moment of silence in remembrance of those who passed from ailments or conditions related to homelessness and encourage support for local efforts to eliminate homelessness in our community.*

*Dated this 8<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2020*

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*Patricia Byers, Mayor*