

# Grand Junction

State of Colorado

## PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS,** *on any given night over 1,500 youth in Colorado are living in shelters, staying with family or friends, or sleeping without a roof over their heads; and*

**WHEREAS,** *approximately 20% of youth exiting foster care in Colorado experience homelessness after age 18; and*

**WHEREAS,** *homeless youth lack the resources necessary to secure basic needs, including access to housing, food, clothing, and adequate and appropriate medical or behavioral health care and face great difficulty in accessing, stabilizing, and succeeding in school, reducing the likelihood of successful graduation; and*

**WHEREAS,** *homeless youth who drop out of high school are at a higher risk of poverty, and are more likely to be unemployed, turn to crime, need state-funded medical care, get welfare, and pay no taxes; and*

**WHEREAS,** *awareness of the tragedy of youth homelessness and its causes must be heightened to ensure greater support for effective programs aimed at preventing homelessness and help youth remain off the streets; and*

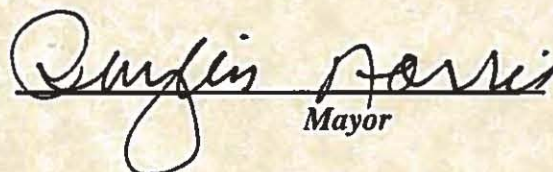
**WHEREAS,** *the City of Grand Junction recognizes the potential of these young people and has provided support through Community Development Block Grants made to The House – A Safe Place for Western Slope Teens - and through staff cooperation with the homeless service provider community.*

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Phyllis Norris, by the power vested in me as Mayor of the City of Grand Junction, do hereby proclaim the month of November, 2016 as**

### **“GRAND JUNCTION HOMELESS AND RUNAWAY YOUTH AWARENESS MONTH”**

*in the City of Grand Junction and urge all citizens to recognize and support the needs of homeless and runaway youth in our community.*

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official Seal of the City of Grand Junction this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of November, 2016.**

  
Mayor

