Proclamation

Office of the Mayor

Poverty Awareness Month

WHEREAS, poverty affects millions of individuals and families across the United States, limiting access to basic necessities such as safe housing, disability resources, nutritious food, healthcare, education, and economic opportunity; and

WHEREAS, individuals and families experiencing poverty often face systemic barriers that perpetuate cycles of economic hardship, including limited access to early childhood education, behavioral and mental health coverage, employment opportunities, transportation, and other essential social services; and

WHEREAS, children living in poverty are at a heightened risk for adverse educational, health, and developmental outcomes, making poverty awareness and prevention critical to the long-term well-being of our communities; and

WHEREAS, raising public awareness about poverty helps dispel misconceptions by fostering empathy, and encourages community-wide collaboration to address the root causes of economic insecurity; and

WHEREAS, nonprofit organizations, faith-based institutions, educational entities, businesses, and government agencies play a vital role in providing resources, advocacy, and innovative solutions to support individuals and families striving for financial stability; and

WHEREAS, the City of Sunrise Food Pantry serves as a vital community resource, providing nutritious food and essential support to individuals and families experiencing food insecurity, while promoting dignity, compassion, and hope for residents in need; and

WHEREAS, recognizing Poverty Awareness Month affirms a shared commitment to compassion, dignity, and opportunity for all residents, and encourages continued efforts to strengthen pathways to self-sufficiency and economic mobility.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that I, Michael J. Ryan, Mayor of the City of Sunrise, Florida, together with the City Commissioners do hereby proclaim the month of January 2026 as: **Poverty Awareness Month** in the City of Sunrise.

Witness My Hand and Official Seal of
The City of Sunrise, Florida

Michael J. Ryan, Mayor