

## OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

CITY OF CHICAGO

LORI E. LIGHTFOOT

MAYOR

## **PROCLAMATION**

WHEREAS, Mercy Home for Boys & Girls has been a port in the storm for many generations of troubled, abandoned, or lost children since it first opened its doors in 1887; and

WHEREAS, today the Home stands among the city's oldest and most noted social service institutions continuing to aid our most vulnerable and most determined residents; and

WHEREAS, Mercy Home remains an innovator in the holistic care and healing it provides for children who have suffered adverse childhood experiences, and extends its impact into the community by offering a model of strength-based and trauma-responsive care for youth; and

WHEREAS, Chicago's role as an international center of commerce and culture is inextricably bound with improving the health and stability of families and children from every community, and every corner of our metropolitan area, particularly children whose personal experiences place them among the most vulnerable and at-risk; and

WHEREAS, we join the business community in its partnership with Mercy Home to help prepare the next generation for active citizenship by developing the promise and potential of all children; and

WHEREAS, we support institutions like Mercy Home for Boys & Girls that dramatically improve the long-term prospects of the most disadvantaged children, particularly though its success in helping its young people achieve academically — evidenced by its regular realization of a 100% graduation rate achieved by its talented seniors within Chicago high schools each year; and

WHEREAS, Mercy Home faithfully serves children and families in every community in our city undoubtedly building a better Chicago; and

WHEREAS, we join Mercy Home President Rev. L. Scott Donahue in leading a conversation about solutions for children in need and encourage all individuals, businesses, and communities in Chicago to join Mercy Home for Boys & Girls in its public advocacy for Chicago's most at-risk children:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LORI E. LIGHTFOOT, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO, do hereby proclaim March 2020 to be MERCY HOME FOR BOYS & GIRLS MARCH FOR KIDS IN CHICAGO, and urge all residents to be a part of a solution for kids in crisis.

Dated this 1st day of March, 2020.