

PROCLAMATION

POVERTY AWARENESS WEEK

OCTOBER 1 – OCTOBER 7, 2012

WHEREAS, childhood poverty costs the United States roughly \$500 billion a year, the equivalent of nearly 4 percent of the GDP; and

WHEREAS, childhood poverty reduces productivity and economic output annually by approximately 1.3 percent of GDP, raises the costs related to crime by 1.3 percent of GDP and raises health expenditures by 1.2 percent of GDP; and

WHEREAS, the poverty rate for children in the United States rose from 18.0 percent in 2007 to a staggering 20.7 percent in 2009 and is expected to remain above 20 percent through the end of the current decade; and

WHEREAS, according to the US Census Bureau, the percentage of people living below the poverty level in Nevada increased from 12.4 percent in 2009 to 14.9 in 2010; and

WHEREAS, these statistics suggest that the development and implementation of effective anti-poverty strategies will yield large potential returns to the economy and to society in general; and

WHEREAS, elevating people out of poverty through self-help initiatives is one of the most effective long term approaches to improving the societal and financial health of our communities;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Robert L. Crowell, Mayor of Carson City, Nevada, on behalf of the Board of Supervisors do hereby proclaim the week of October 1st through October 7th, 2012 **Poverty Awareness Week** and urge all of our citizens to support those organizations in our community that help those less fortunate than ourselves improve their long term circumstances through education, hard work and determination.



Dated this 20th day of September 2012.


Robert L. Crowell, Mayor