

City of Charlotte, North Carolina Proclamation

WHEREAS, 21 million public school students in the United States are fed during the school year through the National School Lunch Program, offering free or reduced price meals to students who would otherwise be unable to afford them; and

WHEREAS, the National School Lunch Program feeds students on only Monday through Friday, meaning that many of these students are hungry on the weekends; and

WHEREAS, hunger has both short and long-term negative effects on children's health, weakening immune systems, increasing hospitalization rates, and impairing neural development and

WHEREAS, there are strong ties between nutrition and academic achievement, therefore ensuring that no child goes hungry is especially critical during the school year; and

WHEREAS, Blessings in a Back – a 501(c)3 organization provides food for elementary school children across America who otherwise have little or no food to eat on weekends during the school year; and

WHEREAS, better test scores, improved reading skills, positive behavior, improved health, and increased attendance have been linked to students who are well-nourished seven days a week; and

WHEREAS, Blessings in a Backpack currently serves more than 66,000 students in 44 states, and more than 1,300 cities across the country; and

WHEREAS, these Blessings in a Backpack programs are administered by volunteers in communities across the United States who fundraise, purchase food, stuff and deliver backpacks to students once a week; and

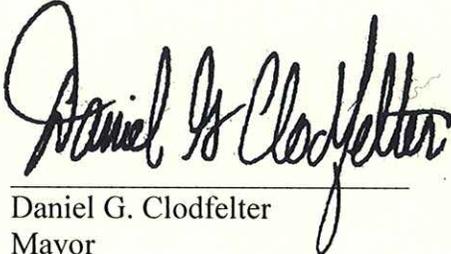
NOW, THEREFORE, I, Daniel G. Clodfelter, Mayor of Charlotte, do hereby proclaim September 17, 2015 as

“BLESSINGS IN A BACKPACK DAY”

in Charlotte and commend its observance to all citizens.

WITNESS MY HAND and the official Seal of the City of Charlotte.




Daniel G. Clodfelter
Mayor