

# STATE OF ILLINOIS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

## Proclamation

WHEREAS, access to safe and affordable housing is one of the basic necessities of life; and

WHEREAS, foreclosures continue to rise in Illinois, nearly doubling between 2005 and 2007; workers struggle to afford the rent; seniors, people with disabilities, and others with limited incomes need affordable places to live; and there is a shortage of rental units for those with the lowest incomes and long waiting lists to access housing subsidies. These examples illustrate a housing affordability problem that often results in homelessness; and

WHEREAS, all citizens require stable and affordable housing in order to achieve individual and family success, and it is essential that we have a full range of quality housing options available and accessible to meet the needs of all income groups and special needs populations in communities across the state; and

WHEREAS, recognizing that housing is not just about bricks and mortar, it is crucial that grassroots organizations, non-profit housing professionals, financial institutions, elected officials, state agencies and others join forces to guide and promote affordable housing as fundamental to community and economic health; and

WHEREAS, the talents and efforts of grassroots organizations, non-profit housing professionals, financial institutions, elected officials, state agencies and others must be combined to address the challenge of ensuring that every person in Illinois has access to affordable housing:

THEREFORE, I, Rod R. Blagojevich, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby proclaim November 2008 as **AFFORDABLE HOUSING MONTH** in Illinois, and encourage all citizens to recognize and appreciate the need for reasonably priced housing and its impact on our communities.

*In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Illinois to be affixed.*



*Done at the Capitol, in the City of Springfield,*  
*this* FIRST *day of* OCTOBER *, in*  
*the Year of Our Lord two thousand and*  
EIGHT *, and of the State of Illinois*  
*the one hundred and* NINETIETH

*Deese White*  
SECRETARY OF STATE

*Rod R. Blagojevich*  
GOVERNOR