

A Proclamation  
By  
Governor Ronnie Musgrove

**WHEREAS**, adequate housing is essential for healthy families and communities;  
and

**WHEREAS**, the combination of rising housing costs and a shortage of rental and single family housing has led to housing becoming increasingly inaccessible; and

**WHEREAS**, last year Cecil County provided 27,110 bed nights to 870 homeless men, women and children who sought help through the Meeting Ground, the Men's Shelter and the Department of Social Services; and

**WHEREAS**, there are untold hundreds of persons and families in Cecil County with no home of their own, living with relatives or friends; and

**WHEREAS**, each year too many people in our county, state and country die alone in the cold; and

**WHEREAS**, Students Against Hunger and Homelessness, in cooperation with, Carl Wright, Jr. (2003 Governors Youth Volunteer Service Ward winner at Christiana High School, in Newark, Delaware), and the National Coalition for the Homeless, will be celebrating NHPMD with a candle light vigil in hopes to bring about homelessness awareness on a state and local level:

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Ronnie Musgrove, Governor of the State of Mississippi, hereby proclaim the December 21, 2003, as

**NATIONAL HOMELESS PERSONS' MEMORIAL DAY**

in the State of Mississippi and urge citizens to learn more about the housing crisis we are facing, and to contribute in whatever ways they can to the care and shelter of the homeless in our midst.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Mississippi to be affixed.

DONE in the City of Jackson, September 30, 2003, in the two hundred and twenty-seventh year of the United States of America.

RONNIE MUSGROVE  
GOVERNOR