



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Crossroads Urban Center was founded in Salt Lake City in 1966 and, for 60 years, has worked alongside individuals and families experiencing hunger, homelessness, poverty, and other barriers to stability; and

WHEREAS, the Center became home to Utah's first emergency food pantry in 1967, and it has since grown to provide food, clothing, transportation assistance, emergency support, and other essential resources to tens of thousands of households each year; and

WHEREAS, Crossroads has always understood that meeting immediate needs must be paired with addressing their underlying causes, empowering people with lived experience to advocate for policies that advance affordable housing, food security, economic dignity, and opportunity; and

WHEREAS, Crossroads has strengthened Salt Lake City's broader network of service and advocacy by helping launch organizations and initiatives that have become enduring community institutions, while bringing together residents, faith communities, volunteers, and partners in the shared work of reducing poverty; and

WHEREAS, in fact, while serving on the Salt Lake City Council and Redevelopment Agency Board in 2016, it was Crossroads Urban Center's education and advocacy that helped me understand the need for a major, dedicated investment in affordable housing, ultimately inspiring the Board to consolidate available funds into an unprecedented investment of more than \$21 million—the first commitment of that scale in Salt Lake City's history; and

WHEREAS, Crossroads Urban Center's influence did not stop with that historic investment, but continued to help shape the advocacy and ideas that led to Thriving in Place, Salt Lake City's anti-displacement strategy to protect tenants, preserve affordable housing, and help residents remain in the neighborhoods they call home; and

WHEREAS, as Crossroads Urban Center celebrates its 60th anniversary and prepares to expand its presence in Salt Lake City with a new building planned for 2027, our community honors its remarkable legacy and looks forward to the next generation of compassionate service, grassroots leadership, and advocacy.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mayor Erin Mendenhall, hereby proclaim September 24, 2026, as:

Crossroads Urban Center Day in Salt Lake City

Erin Mendenhall, Mayor