



PROCLAMATION

presented for

Operation Teddy Bear

December 9, 2004

Whereas, the Volunteer Center, South Bay-Harbor-Long Beach has served the Community for 40 Years through its five satellite offices; and

Whereas, the Volunteer Center benefits more than 30,000 individuals and over 600 nonprofit agencies with services to the community valued at over \$17 million annually; and

Whereas, Operation Teddy Bear, was established by the Volunteer Center in 1994, to promote literacy, increase self-esteem and encourage kindness to one another based on the spirit of volunteerism and the joy of giving; and

Whereas, through Operation Teddy Bear, The Volunteer Center, donates 5,000 backpacks yearly to Long Beach disadvantaged first grade school children that are stuffed with; toys, educational tools,...and a cuddly teddy bear; and

Whereas, shortly before Thanksgiving each year, dedicated individuals volunteer their time to fill the backpacks and early in December, more volunteers deliver the backpacks to the schools and agencies that have children with the greatest need; and

Whereas, for most of these children, this special backpack is the only gift they will receive during the holiday season;

Now, Therefore, I, Beverly O'Neill, Mayor of the City of Long Beach, do hereby declare December 9, 2004 as *Operation Teddy Bear Day* and commend the Volunteer Center for their outstanding contribution to the youth of this community.



Beverly O'Neill
Beverly O'Neill
MAYOR

Dated: December 7, 2004