

Office of the Mayor City of Greenville

## Proclamation

*WHEREAS*, the Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS) pandemic is relentlessly gaining ground, leaving millions of victims in its wake and orphaning a new child every 15 seconds; and

*WHEREAS*, children who have been orphaned or rendered vulnerable by AIDS are among the most fragile children of the planet; and

WHEREAS, the AIDS orphans' crisis is a humanitarian, economic, social and security challenge that our global society must urgently address – there are already more than 15 million AIDS orphans in the world; and

WHEREAS, only a large-scale and sustainable political effort can halt this crisis; and

*WHEREAS*, World AIDS Orphans Day contributes to raising public awareness about the plight of these children, whose numbers constantly increase; and

**WHEREAS**, the moral support given by elected representatives can contribute to influencing governments into taking immediate measures for the protection and global caretaking of AIDS orphans, while respecting and implementing the applicable international rights; and

*WHEREAS*, the mission of François-Xavier International (FXB) is to fight poverty and AIDS and support the AIDS orphans and vulnerable children left in the wake of the AIDS pandemic by providing global support to families and communities that care for them by advocating for their basic rights;

*NOW, THEREFORE*, I, Robert D. Parrott, Mayor of the City of Greenville, do hereby proclaim May 7, 2007 as

## WORLD AIDS ORPHANS DAY

in the City of Greenville and urge all citizens and media to support the mission of this world solidarity coalition initiated by FXB.

This 26th day of April, 2007.

Robert D. Parrott, Mayor