



Proclamation

WHEREAS, National Disability Employment Awareness Month is a national initiative that raises awareness about disability employment issues and celebrates the many and varied contributions of individuals with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, workplaces welcoming the talents of all people, including those with disabilities, are a critical part of the effort to build an inclusive community and strong economy; and

WHEREAS, we recognize the challenges faced by people with disabilities to obtain stable employment, specifically during the national recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, and that fair access to employment is a fundamental right of every American, including the more than 50 million people in the country estimated to be living with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, we grow stronger as a community when each person feels the dignity conferred upon them by having the ability to support themselves and their families through productive work; and

WHEREAS, activities during this month will reinforce the value and range of talent of citizens with disabilities and to our workplaces and affirms our City's commitment to increase access and opportunities for all; and

WHEREAS, we encourage local agencies to work with community leaders, service providers, employers, and citizens with disabilities and their families to expand the availability of support that increases opportunities for employment for individuals with disabilities.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Walker E. Reid III, Mayor of the City of Gastonia and the City Council of the City of Gastonia, do hereby proclaim the month of **October** as

National Disability Employment Awareness Month

and urge all citizens to join us in celebrating the contributions of individuals with disabilities in our workplaces and community, and to promote the employment of individuals with disabilities to create a better and more inclusive community.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Gastonia to be affixed, this the 18th day of October in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty-two.

Walker E. Reid III, Mayor

ATTEST:

Suzanne J. Gibbs, City Clerk