



Village Manager's Office

SUBJECT: 2021 National Disability Employment Awareness Month Recognition Proclamation

MEETING DATE: October 26, 2021

FROM: [Alex Arteaga](#), Management Analyst
[Erik Hallgren](#), Assistant Village Manager

BUDGET IMPACT: None

Recommended Motion

Proclamation designating the month of October 2021 as National Disability Employment Awareness Month in the Village of Wilmette.

Background

The Village's Human Relations Commission has endorsed Village proclamations recognizing the celebration of various social and cultural groups including National Disability Employment Awareness Month. As such, staff wanted to provide the Village Board with pertinent information regarding the history of this celebration.

The US Congress declared the first week of October as National Employ the Physically Handicapped Week in 1945. In 1962, the word "physically" was removed to acknowledge the employment needs and contributions of individuals with all types of disabilities. Some 25 years later, Congress expanded the week to a month and changed the name to National Disability Employment Awareness Month. The month celebrates such events as the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act in 1990 and recognizes the nearly 30 million people in the U.S. of working age who are disabled. October 2021 marks the 20-year anniversary of the Office of Disability Employment Policy in the US Department of Labor, which works to help advance opportunity for workers with disabilities across the Nation.

In proclaiming National Disability Employment Awareness Month, the Village is recognizing the value and talents of people with disabilities add to the workplace and community. The Village will promote resources on the Village's website and social. National Disability Employment Awareness Month information and resources can be found at <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/odep/initiatives/ndeam>.

Documents Attached

1. 2021 National Disability Employment Awareness Month Proclamation



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Office of the
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PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, all residents deserve to be treated with dignity, respect, compassion and justice regardless of gender, age, race, religion, economic status, sexual orientation, or physical, mental, or sensory ability; and,

WHEREAS, the Village of Wilmette supports the rights of every individual to experience equality of treatment and values our diverse population of residents, businesses, and visitors, recognizing that this diversity is one of this community's greatest strengths; and,

WHEREAS, October is annually celebrated as National Disability Employment Awareness Month to educate about disability employment issues and celebrate the many and varied contributions of America's workforce with disabilities; and,

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

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Senta Plunkett, Village President of Wilmette, Illinois, proclaim October 2021 as National Disability Employment Awareness Month and call upon employers, schools, and other community organizations to recognize the value and talents of people with disabilities add to our workplaces and communities.

Dated this 26th day of October 2021.

Senta Plunkett
Village President