

# **P R O C L A M A T I O N**

**WHEREAS**, the week of April 4-10, 2022, is National Public Health Week, and the theme is “**Public Health is Where You Are**,” recognizing that the places where we are, physically, mentally and societally, affect our health and our lives; and

**WHEREAS**, there is a significant difference in health outcomes in Alexandria, such as in obesity, life expectancy, mental health, asthma hospitalizations, and hypertension due to factors, such as racism, uneven educational opportunities, and lack of economic mobility; and

**WHEREAS**, a person’s health status can differ drastically by ZIP code due to differences in the built environment, environmental quality, access to safe recreational spaces, access to healthy food, and access to healthcare; and

**WHEREAS**, Alexandria’s Community Health Improvement Plan was facilitated by the Alexandria Health Department and the Partnership for a Healthier Alexandria to address the root causes of significant differences in health outcomes through poverty, housing, and mental health action; and

**WHEREAS**, collaborative community work to improve local quality of life has resulted in Alexandria’s ranking in the top quartile of healthiest Virginia jurisdictions; and

**WHEREAS**, the Alexandria Health Department has played a critical role in our city’s COVID-19 response for more than two years by coordinating testing, vaccinating tens of thousands of residents, conducting extensive and equitable outreach and engagement to reach all residents, supporting businesses and organizations with life-saving guidance through the award-winning ALX Promise program, and helping individuals navigate illness or exposures; and

**WHEREAS**, thousands of Alexandrians became public health force multipliers by volunteering in the Medical Reserve Corps during the pandemic to ensure the safety of all those who live, work, and play in the city.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, JUSTIN M. WILSON**, Mayor of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, and on behalf of the Alexandria City Council, do hereby proclaim the week of April 4-10, 2022, as:

## **“PUBLIC HEALTH WEEK”**

*In the City of Alexandria and call upon the people of Alexandria to observe this week by helping our families, friends, neighbors, co-workers and leaders to better understand the value of public health and supporting opportunities and systems that encourage healthy lifestyles and sustain well-being.*

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Alexandria to be affixed this 5<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2022.

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**MAYOR JUSTIN M. WILSON**

*On behalf of the City Council  
of Alexandria, Virginia*

ATTEST:

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*Gloria A. Sitton, CMC City Clerk*