

## **PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Alexandria believes that the mental and physical health of its inhabitants is of paramount concern, and that these two factors in measures of health contribute to the City's nature and its thriving state of mind, and our City has followed the Commonwealth's example to that end, as Virginia established some of its first mental hygiene clinics in the 1940s; and

**WHEREAS**, this sentiment was underscored nationally when President John Kennedy signed into law the Community Mental Health Act of 1963, which led to the growth of comprehensive community mental health centers; and the Virginia General Assembly followed suit thereafter when it established Community Services Boards in 1968; and soon thereafter the Alexandria Community Services Board (CSB) was established March 25, 1969; and

**WHEREAS**, today the CSB, an entity overseen by 12 Council-appointed Alexandrians, serving as the public safety net for individuals dealing with behavioral health, developmental disabilities, and substance use disorders, providing services regardless of the residents' ability to pay; and

**WHEREAS**, the CSB adheres to mission to provide effective and essential safety net services that measurably improve or maintain the quality of life for Alexandrians and provide compassionate and effective services that support self-determination, recovery and resiliency for Alexandria residents affected by mental illness, developmental disabilities, and substance abuse disorders. And its mission is actualized in the actions from over 25 programs, serving over 4,300 Alexandrians yearly. Through the CSB's partnerships with other City agencies and a multitude of community non-profits, it successfully and effectively supports all Alexandrians with whom it comes into contact.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, JUSTIN M. WILSON**, Mayor of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, and on behalf of the Alexandria City Council, do hereby recognize November 7, 2019 as:

### **“COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD DAY”**

CSB has served Alexandrians for 50 years in a compassionate, effective, fiscally responsible manner, and I bring this to the attention of all in the City of Alexandria and I call this observance to the attention of all our citizens.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Alexandria to be affixed this 10<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2019.

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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