

Proclamation

“National Disability Employment Awareness Month”

October 2023

Whereas, in October, Americans observe National Disability Employment Awareness Month by paying recognition to the accomplishments of the individuals with disabilities whose work helps keep the nation’s economy strong and by reaffirming the commitment to ensure equal opportunity for all residents; and,

Whereas, it is most recently estimated approximately 21% of the United States total workforce live with at least one disability; and,

Whereas, this effort to educate the public about issues related to disability and employment began in 1945, when Congress enacted Public Law 176, declaring the first week of October each year as National Employ the Physically Handicapped Week; and,

Whereas, in 1962, the word “physically” was removed to acknowledge the employment needs and contributions of those with all types of disabilities. Twenty-five years later, Congress then expanded the week of recognition to a month and changed the name to what we know it as today; and,

Whereas, this year’s theme, “Advancing Access and Equity: Then, Now, and Next,” celebrates the passage of the Rehabilitation Act a half-century ago and its importance in prohibiting discrimination based on disability in employment. This celebration is more than that; it’s a call to action. It’s a time to recommit to the hard work of advocating for better access to employment opportunities and equitable outcomes for workers with disabilities; and,

Whereas, Adams County’s employee-led A-Proud affinity group, Positivity Disability, provides a safe, and welcoming environment to foster support, awareness, education, and advocacy in and around the Disability Community.

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved, that the Board of Commissioners, of the County of Adams, State of Colorado, proclaims October 2023, as

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and encourages all residents to honor the multitudes of skills and talents of people with disabilities and the important impact they have on our society.

In witness whereof, we have set our hands and caused the seal of the county to be affixed October 3, 2023.