



Proclamation

Mayor Mitch Reynolds

City of La Crosse

WHEREAS, in 1926, Harvard scholar Dr. Carter G. Woodson established the observance of a week to study African American history as a way to explore the mostly hidden involvement of African American people in the development of our nation; and

WHEREAS, during Black History Month, we celebrate the vast achievements and contributions made by African Americans to our nation's economic, spiritual, cultural, and political institutions; and

WHEREAS, the significant contributions from La Crosse individuals like George Edwin Taylor, George Coleman Poage, Lillian Davenport, John Birney, Nathan Smith, and many others might continue to be ignored in our community were it not for the educational efforts by individuals and groups like the Enduring Families Project; and

WHEREAS, through Black History Month we confront past and current levels of racism and inequality while celebrating those who have faced adversity and fought for freedom and justice, at times risking their lives in the struggle for equality; and

WHEREAS, the 2022 Black History Month theme of Black Health and Wellness reminds us to acknowledge how black communities have fought to find wellness even while tremendous access and outcome disparities continue in our healthcare system; and

WHEREAS, the City of La Crosse continues work towards becoming an inclusive and diverse community, recognizing past inequities while embracing current and future challenges.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MITCH REYNOLDS, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF LA CROSSE, do hereby proclaim February 2022 as Black History Month and call upon everyone in the La Crosse community to learn and reflect on our past and accept a collective challenge to push towards a future that is just, fair, and prosperous for all who call our city, our state, and our nation home.

Dated on this 1st day of February in the year Two Thousand Twenty-Two.



MAYOR MITCH REYNOLDS