



CITY OF VADNAIS HEIGHTS

Declaring the Week of September 13-19, 2020

Direct Support Professional Recognition Week

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Direct Support Professionals (DSPs) are the primary providers of community-based long-term support services for thousands of individuals with disabilities in Minnesota; and

WHEREAS, DSPs are valued for their work in building close, respectful, and trusted relationships with individuals to assist them with their most intimate needs; and

WHEREAS, DSPs provide essential support to individuals with disabilities to stay connected to family, friends, coworkers and the community, helping them to define and live a quality life; and

WHEREAS, DSPs provide a broad range of individualized supports, including meal preparation, medication assistance, personal care and life skills training, mobility, work and life enrichment opportunities and other daily tasks; and

WHEREAS, DSPs support informed choices and person-centered practices that honor and respect the individuals with disabilities they serve; and

WHEREAS, an adequate workforce of high-quality DSPs is necessary for the people of Vadnais Heights to meet obligations to people with disabilities and minimize more costly settings such as hospitals or institutions; and

WHEREAS, DSPs are one of the fastest growing positions in America and demand for their skills is great, yet low wages and demographic trends are creating a growing shortage of DSPs, leading to increased turnover.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Heidi Gunderson, Mayor of the City of Vadnais Heights, do hereby proclaim September 13-19, 2020 as Direct Support Professional Recognition Week.

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Heidi Gunderson, Mayor

Attested:

Kevin Watson, City Administrator