



**CITY OF VADNAIS HEIGHTS**

***Declaring the Week of September 11-17, 2022***

***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 who work in Vadnais Heights provide essential support to individuals with disabilities to stay connected to family, friends, coworkers and our 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 11-17, 2022 as Direct Support Professional Recognition Week.

**CITY OF VADNAIS HEIGHTS**

By: 

Heidi Gunderson, Mayor

Attested:  


Kevin Watson, City Administrator