

CITY OF FRESNO

Office of Mayor Jerry P. Dyer

Honoring Health Literacy Awareness Month

WHEREAS, health literacy is the ability to understand basic information and the services needed to make important health decisions. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says 90 percent of Americans lack the health literacy skills necessary to prevent and manage disease and chronic conditions and to effectively navigate the complex healthcare system; and

WHEREAS, unequal access to clear and understandable health information creates health disparities and results in unnecessary emergency room visits and hospitalizations, as well as negative health outcomes — up to and including death; and

WHEREAS, taking action to improve health literacy locally is of great value. Groups like the Cultural Community Wellness Coalition (CCWC) — a collaboration of local community-based organizations — are committed to enhancing equitable outcomes for Fresno residents; and

WHEREAS, the CCWC is making a difference through the Advancing Health Literacy Initiative. This initiative mobilizes trained, culturally competent community health workers to address health disparities among high risk, underserved racial and minority populations, while increasing their understanding of health-related concepts. This in turn improves communication between adults and their health care providers, which allows them to be more involved in their health and well-being decisions; and

WHEREAS, bringing together community-based organizations and health providers/professionals where participants may exchange ideas, collaborate and promote actionable strategies is improving health literacy in Fresno.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we, Mayor Jerry Dyer and Members of the Fresno City Council, do hereby proclaim October 2023 to be:

“Health Literacy Awareness Month”

In the City of Fresno.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hands and affixed the seal of the City of Fresno, California, this 5th day of October 2023.

JERRY P. DYER, Honorable Mayor

TYLER MAXWELL, Council President

ANNALISA PEREA, Vice President

MIKE KARBASSI, Councilmember District 2

MIGUEL ARIAS, Councilmember District 3

LUIS CHAVEZ, Councilmember District 5

GARRY BREDEFELD, Councilmember District 6

NELSON ESPARZA, Council District 7