



## PROCLAMATION

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### NATIONAL INFLUENZA VACCINATION WEEK

**WHEREAS**, for the last 30 years the severity of the influenza seasons has differed substantially from one year to the next with a low of 3,000 to a high of 61,000 deaths; and

**WHEREAS**, each year in the United States five to 20 percent of the population can be infected with the flu, with more than 140,000 people being hospitalized during a flu season; and

**WHEREAS**, African Americans (39%) American Indians (38%) and Latinx (37%) adults continue to have lower vaccination rates in comparison to the general population; and

**WHEREAS**, all medically underserved populations can adopt healthy lifestyle behaviors that include annual flu vaccinations, management of chronic health conditions, and follow CDC guidelines to protect against COVID-19 to minimize health complications that impact the physical and economic well-being of an entire community; and

**WHEREAS**, the “Protect the Ones You Love” campaign was launched by the Virginia Department of Health specifically to address flu-related health disparities and coverage rate gaps in light of COVID-19 within health-disparate populations that include African American, Latinx and American Indian communities, and to promote annual flu vaccinations for everyone six months and older;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I**, Libby Garvey, Chair of the County Board of Arlington, Virginia, do hereby proclaim December 6 through 12, 2020, as

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in Arlington County and urge all Arlingtonians to participate in local flu vaccination drives and promotional activities planned henceforth, and to get vaccinated as part of the Virginia Department of Health’s “Protect the Ones You Love” campaign.

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Libby Garvey  
Chair