

ARLINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA

Proclamation

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

WHEREAS, Arlington recognizes human mobility as the right to freedom of movement, protected in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and as a foundation of our own democracy; and

WHEREAS, Hispanic people comprise 19% of our nation's population and 16% of Arlington County residents, strengthening our mosaic of businesses, cultures, and talents; and

WHEREAS, Arlington County recognizes that the Latino community is multicultural, multilingual, and extends beyond South and Central America to include people with ancestry around the world; and

WHEREAS, the language of inclusion continues to evolve thus giving voice to previously excluded members of the Hispanic and Latino communities, and better expressing the identities and hopes for future generations; and

WHEREAS, the Hispanic community is leading conversations about gender equality, sexual diversity, systems of oppression - including systemic racism and colorism, social justice, inclusion and belonging, and human rights in their communities abroad and locally; and

WHEREAS, the Alianza Employee Resource Group was established as a place for Arlington County's Hispanic, Latino, and Latinx employees to share our various cultures with each other, with other County employees, and with the broader Arlington community;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Christian Dorsey, Chair of the Arlington County Board, do hereby proclaim **September 15 through October 15, 2023**, as

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

in Arlington County and urge our residents to join and support the County's celebration of the rich heritage of our Hispanic residents.



Christian Dorsey
Chair