

# ARLINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA

## Proclamation

**DR. REUBEN VARGHESE, MD, MPH**

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Reuben Varghese has served with distinction as Arlington's Public Health Director since July 18, 2005; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Varghese has played a leading role in protecting and promoting the health of Arlington residents and our neighbors throughout the Commonwealth and the Washington, D.C. Metropolitan Region; and

**WHEREAS**, under his leadership, Arlington's preparation for and response to public health challenges including COVID, H1N1, Ebola, and Mpox has enabled our community to address these threats in an informed, effective fashion and through Public Health Division programs that touch every member of our community through restaurant and swimming pool inspections, communicable disease surveillance and investigation, school health services, HIV services, testing and vaccine services; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Varghese has been a driving force behind the County's efforts to promote health equity through his personal and professional actions, including publication of the groundbreaking 2018 report "A Decade of Difference: Destination 2027 Steering Committee Report," which played a prominent role in the passing of the County Board Equity Resolution, the creation of a Race and Equity Office, and the use of equity questions in County policymaking and budget decisions towards efforts to address health disparities; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Varghese has strengthened the community's health care landscape by forging and fostering partnerships with health care providers, health care organizations, and neighboring jurisdictions and has prioritized meeting the needs of vulnerable and uninsured Arlington residents; and

**WHEREAS**, under his leadership, Public Health Division efforts saved lives by aggressively providing over 215,000 doses of the COVID-19 vaccine through mass vaccination clinics, thereby reducing COVID-related morbidity and mortality in the Arlington community; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, I**, Libby Garvey, Chair of the County Board of Arlington, Virginia do hereby recognize on December 17, 2024

**DR. REUBEN VARGHESE**

for his hard work and unceasing dedication to bolstering public health in Arlington and working to realize the Department of Human Services' vision of a just and equitable community that is healthy, safe, and economically secure, and free of systemic racism.



  
Libby Garvey  
Chair