

# **P R O C L A M A T I O N**

## **NATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH WEEK**

**April 1-7, 2024**

**WHEREAS** the American Public Health Association has designated the week of April 1, 2024, as National Public Health Week to champion the health of all people in all communities with the theme "Protecting, Connecting and Thriving: We Are All Public Health"; and

**WHEREAS** in communities across the United States, individuals are changing the way they care for their health by avoiding tobacco use, eating healthier, increasing physical activity, and preventing unintentional injuries at home and in the workplace; and

**WHEREAS** efforts to adequately support public health and the prevention of disease and injury can continue to transform a health system focused on treating illness into a health system focused on preventing disease and injury and promoting wellness; and

**WHEREAS** public health professionals collaborate with partners outside of the health sector, including city planners, transportation officials, education officials, and private sector businesses, recognizing that other sectors can influence health outcomes; and

**WHEREAS** the Village of Oak Park Public Health Department was established in 1905 and has been a state certified local health department for 75 years; and

**WHEREAS** the Village of Oak Park Public Health Department provides epidemiological surveillance to monitor communicable disease outbreaks in the community; designs and implements public health programming to advance health and wellness within the community; has distributed more than 1,300 doses of naloxone in response to the opioid overdose epidemic; and has increased the vaccination rates for childhood vaccination in Oak Park to 95%, which exceeds state/national levels; and

**WHEREAS** the Village of Oak Park Public Health Department manages the Oak Park Farmers' Market, which has increased the amount of healthy, sustainably-produced food in the community for 48 years; protects community health through environmental health inspections of restaurants, tattoo parlors, tanning facilities and daycares; trains community members for and coordinates an effective response to

public health emergencies; and provides programs related to animal welfare and wildlife management and control; and

**WHEREAS** the Village of Oak Park Public Health Department has continuously worked to achieve health equity by addressing social determinants of health and implementing targeted strategies for communities experiencing disparities; and

**WHEREAS** the Village of Oak Park Public Health Department is partnering with the Oak Park River Forest Chamber of Commerce at the annual Community Health and Wellness Fair on Sunday, April 21, 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM at the Community Recreation Center;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Vicki Scaman, President of the Village of Oak Park and the Board of Trustees, do hereby recognize the Oak Park Public Health Department's efforts in disease prevention, health promotion and protection; support the goals of National Public Health Week to build awareness of public health's role; commit to continued investment in public health and proclaim the week of April 1–7, 2024 as NATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH WEEK in the Village of Oak Park and encourage all citizens to become involved in community health improvement efforts to ensure Oak Park remains a healthy, vibrant community for all.**

**DATED** this 19<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2024.

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Vicki Scaman

Village President

**ATTEST**

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Christina M. Waters

Village Clerk