

ARLINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA

Proclamation

NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH

WHEREAS, the Board of Arlington County, Virginia recognizes the importance of preparedness in ensuring the safety and well-being of our residents; and

WHEREAS, emergencies and disasters can occur at any time, and being prepared is essential for effectively responding to and recovering from such events; and

WHEREAS, the Arlington County Department of Public Safety Communications and Emergency Management is committed to equitably promoting and enhancing community preparedness through education, outreach, and resources; and

WHEREAS, residents can enhance preparedness by staying informed about local emergencies by subscribing to Arlington Alert; creating a family emergency plan that includes communication strategies and evacuation routes; assembling an emergency supply kit with essential items such as food, water, medications, and important documents; learning life-saving skills like first aid and CPR, and encouraging others to do the same; and volunteering with organizations dedicated to emergency preparedness, response, and recovery such as the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) and Community Advancing Resilience and Readiness Together (CARRT); and

WHEREAS, September has been designated as National Preparedness Month, a nationwide observance to raise awareness and encourage individuals, families, and communities to take proactive measures in preparing for emergencies and disasters; and

WHEREAS, this year's theme for National Preparedness Month is "Better Prepared Now," emphasizing the importance of early preparedness to empower individuals to act before a crisis occurs;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Christian Dorsey, Chair of the County Board of Arlington, Virginia, do hereby proclaim the month of **September** as

NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH

in Arlington County and urge all citizens to be informed, to make a plan and to build community resilience by being more prepared and helping others do the same.



Christian Dorsey
Chair