

# ARLINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA

## Proclamation

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### BLACK HISTORY MONTH

**WHEREAS**, Black History Month is observed in February of each year; and

**WHEREAS**, Black History Month seeks to highlight Black history and is designed to recognize and pay tribute to the many contributions of Black Americans to the history, society and culture of the United States of America; and

**WHEREAS**, the celebration of Black Americans' contributions to our history began in 1926 with Negro History week, and each year since 1976, February has been designated Black History Month in our nation, and the President of the United States has proclaimed the month of February to be Black History Month; and

**WHEREAS**, the theme for Black History Month 2021 is *The Black Family: Representation, Identity and Diversity* in which the black community's unwavering understanding of the value of family -- as an incomparable source of comfort, strength, and even survival -- is highlighted, and the wide-ranging diversity of black family life is explored, from single to two-parent households to nuclear, extended and, more recently, bi-racial; and

**WHEREAS**, throughout black history, factors such as slavery, inequality, and poverty have put pressure on maintaining family ties, even when a better life often meant traveling far from home;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I**, Matt de Ferranti, Chair of the County Board in Arlington, Virginia, do hereby proclaim **February 2021**, as

### BLACK HISTORY MONTH

in Arlington County and call upon our residents to observe this occasion by recognizing the contributions of Black Americans to our society in general and to Arlington County in particular.



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Matt de Ferranti  
Chair