

P roclamation

CITY OF RACINE, WISCONSIN

Whereas: famous historian Carter G. Woodson, son of former enslaved people, established Negro History Week in 1926, and 50 years later as part of the nation's bicentennial, February was established as Black History Month; and

Whereas: the theme of Black History Month 2022 is Black Health and Wellness, and acknowledges the legacy not only of Black scholars and medical practitioners in Western medicine, but also birth workers, doulas, midwives, naturopaths, herbalists, and others throughout the African Diaspora; and

Whereas: the theme of Black Health and Wellness also serves to draw attention to the ways the American healthcare system has historically underserved the African-American community by creating disparity in access to quality healthcare; and

Whereas: despite recent progress through the Obama administration's Affordable Care Act that improved access to healthcare for all Americans, disparities by race and ethnicity continue to exist in health coverage and lead to higher rates of infant mortality, chronic health conditions, hypertension, mental health care, heart disease, and overall mortality rates; and

Whereas: to improve access to healthcare for local residents, the City of Racine is working in collaboration with multiple partners in hopes of establishing a Federally Qualified Health Center with the goal of reducing health disparities that exist in our community.

Now Therefore: I, Cory Mason, Mayor of the City of Racine, do hereby proclaim February 2022

Black History Month

and call on all Racine residents work together to ensure justice and equity for all, with a special focus on access to affordable healthcare.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have here unto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Racine to be affixed.

Accomplished at the City Hall
this 2nd day of February, 2021.

Mayor