

# CITY OF CHARLOTTESVILLE



## PROCLAMATION

### AMERICAN RED CROSS MONTH - MARCH 2023

**WHEREAS** during American Red Cross Month in March, we celebrate the humanitarian spirit of the city of Charlottesville and reaffirm our commitment to help ensure that no one faces a crisis alone; and

**WHEREAS** caring for one another is at the heart of our community and exemplified by the people of city of Charlottesville, whose simple acts of kindness through the Red Cross provide help and hope in people's most difficult moments - continuing the lifesaving legacy of Clara Barton, who founded the organization more than 140 years ago to prevent and alleviate human suffering; and

**WHEREAS** the Virginia Region serves people facing emergencies every day, embracing that the diversity of staff, volunteers, and the people served is vital to this work; and

**WHEREAS** every day, these ordinary individuals lend a helping hand to make an extraordinary difference for neighbors in need - whether providing emergency shelter, food and comfort for families displaced by home fires and other disasters; donating lifesaving blood for cancer patients, accident victims, and people with sickle cell disease and other life-threatening conditions; supporting military members and veterans, along with their families and caregivers, through the unique challenges of service; using vital skills like First Aid and CPR to help others survive medical emergencies; or delivering international humanitarian aid and reconnecting loved ones separated by crises around the world; and

**WHEREAS** powered by 250 dedicated volunteers and generous donors over the past six months the Central Virginia Chapter has:

- Helped 70 households affected by 54 disasters, including storms, floods and home fires;
- Collected more than 9,200 units of lifesaving blood from volunteer donors;
- Trained 4,740 people in First Aid, CPR & AED, water safety, babysitting and other lifesaving skills; and
- Provided 346 critical community services to members of the military, veterans and their families;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Charlottesville City Council hereby proclaims March 2023 as Red Cross Month and we encourage all residents of the City of Charlottesville to honor Clara Barton's noble words, "You must never think of anything except the need and how to meet it," and we ask everyone to join in this commitment.

Signed and sealed this 6<sup>th</sup> day of March 2023.

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**J. Lloyd Snook, III, Mayor**

Attest:

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**Kyna Thomas, Clerk of Council**