

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, bias is a human condition, and the history of humanity is filled with prejudice, discrimination and violence against individuals and groups driven, in part, by those biases; and,

WHEREAS, United Against Hate Week calls for local action to stop hate and counter those implicit biases that can threaten the safety and civility of our neighborhoods, towns, and cities; and,

WHEREAS, the Village of Downers Grove welcomes all people regardless of history, gender, age, ability, race, religion, ethnicity, sexuality or socio-economic status; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Downers Grove is dedicated to encouraging and defending an inclusive environment that welcomes and respects the contributions of all its residents in enriching our community, and in which every individual feels valued, respected and safe, and is given the opportunity to thrive; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Downers Grove denounces discrimination, prejudice, racism, ageism, sexism, bigotry, bullying, or violence in any manner toward any individual; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Downers Grove believes acts of discrimination, prejudice, racism, ageism, sexism, bigotry, bullying, or violence undermine the principles of community integrity, individual equality, and personal freedom, and are antithetical to the values of our Nation, our State and our Village; and,

WHEREAS, the Village of Downers Grove is committed to ensuring an environment where discrimination, prejudice, racism, ageism, sexism, bigotry, bullying, or violence are foreign to public policy and governance, and where individual liberty is free to flourish; and,

WHEREAS, the Village of Downers Grove works to encourage civil dialogue, mutual understanding, and acceptance to foster empathy, compassion and unity among all our residents, businesses and guests, by promoting inclusive practices and respectful dialogue in all that we do as we govern and serve our community;

THEREFORE, NOW, I, Robert T. Barnett, Mayor of the Village of Downers Grove, do hereby proclaim our recognition of **United Against Hate Week 2026** and affirm our support for efforts to build respect, inclusion and a shared sense of belonging for all individuals within our community. We encourage residents, businesses and organizations across our community, to reflect on their own actions and, to visit www.justice.gov to learn more about what they can do to help support and defend the basic freedoms all citizens deserve, to champion inclusivity and belonging, and to look for opportunities to extend compassion and understanding to others.

Dated this 15th day of September 2026 at Downers Grove, Illinois.



Mayor