



# County Commissioners of Charles County

## PROCLAMATION 2026-23

### National Public Health Week

**WHEREAS**, since 1995, the American Public Health Association, has educated the public, policymakers, and health professionals about issues important to improving the public's health; and

**WHEREAS**, public health professionals work tirelessly to prevent disease, promote healthy lifestyles, respond to emergencies, and ensure access to essential health services for individuals and families across Charles County; and

**WHEREAS**, strong public health systems help reduce health disparities, improve quality of life, and create conditions in which all residents can thrive; and

**WHEREAS**, preventable risk factors such as physical inactivity, poor nutrition, tobacco use, and excessive alcohol use are leading causes of chronic disease; and 6 in 10 U.S adults have a chronic disease and 4 in 10 have two or more; and chronic diseases cause 7 of every 10 deaths annually in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, public health action, together with scientific and technological advances, has played a major role in reducing and, in some cases, eliminating the spread of infectious disease, and in establishing today's disease surveillance and control systems; and

**WHEREAS**, the theme for 2026 is, "Ready. Set. Action" emphasizes taking proactive steps to strengthen community partnerships, improve public health systems, and advocate for equitable health policies.

**WHEREAS**, the Charles County Department of Health and its partners provide critical services including disease prevention, maternal and child health programs, behavioral health support, environmental health services, and health education; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, WE, THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND**, do hereby proclaim April 6-12, 2026, as **National Public Health Week in Charles County Month**, and do encourage all residents to observe this week by helping families, friends, neighbors, co-workers, and leaders to better understand the value of public health and supporting great opportunities to adopt preventive lifestyle habits.

#### COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND

Reuben B. Collins, II, Esq., *President*

Ralph E. Patterson, II, M.A., *Vice President*

*District 4*

Gilbert O. Bowling, III

*District 1*

Thomasina O. Coates, M.S.

*District 2*

Amanda M. Stewart, Ed.D.

*District 3*



Attest:

John Adelodun, Assistant Clerk to the Commissioners