

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON**

**PROCLAMATION NO. \_\_\_\_\_**

**Proclaiming May as Older Americans Month in Multnomah County, Oregon.**

**The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Finds:**

- a. Multnomah County is committed to engaging and supporting older adults, their families, and caregivers.
- b. We acknowledge the importance of taking part in activities that promote physical, mental, and emotional well-being - no matter your age.
- c. Multnomah County enriches the lives of individuals of every age by promoting home and community-based services that support independent living; involving older adults in community planning, events, advocacy, and other activities; and providing opportunities for older adults to work, volunteer, learn, lead, and mentor.
- d. Multnomah County programs are building their capacity to serve older adults through participation in the Age-Friendly network with the City of Portland and an array of partners across the region. Efforts include improved emergency response, library outreach and programming, Elections department use of older workers, transportation advocacy, and coordination across aging and behavioral health systems.
- d. Older adults are the fastest-growing segment of the U.S. workforce. Nationally, one in five workers today is 55 or older; by 2024, that number will be one in four, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Much of this shift is due to baby boomers delaying retirement, and millennials entering the workforce later.
- e. One-third of Multnomah County's workforce was born prior to 1965. Twelve percent of our regular employees are eligible for retirement now and 35% will be retirement-eligible by 2022 (DCM Evaluation and Research Unit).
- f. We embrace workforce policies that support our older workforce such as flexible schedules, family leave, employee resource groups, training & development, and generous retirement benefits.
- g. Multnomah County recognizes that meaningful work is considered a key reason that older workers delay retirement. Older adults report having more autonomy at work and more flexibility in their work schedules, according to the American Working Conditions Survey (AWCS), and two-thirds of older workers said they were doing useful work and felt satisfaction over work well done.

**The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Proclaims:**

May is Older Americans Month (OAM), a time to celebrate and honor the immeasurable contributions of older adults to the nation, to our region, and to our work here within Multnomah County. The 2018 theme is Engage at Every Age, we urge every resident to take time during this month to recognize older adults as vital to our community.

**ADOPTED this 10<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2018.**

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Deborah Kafoury, Chair

REVIEWED:  
JENNY M. MADKOUR, COUNTY ATTORNEY  
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Jenny M. Madkour, County Attorney

**SUBMITTED BY:** Peggy J. Brey, Director

