



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS: In October 2025, we celebrate the 80th anniversary of National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM), an annual recognition of the positive impact of people with disabilities in the workforce; and

WHEREAS: This yearly event began in 1945 as a weeklong national observance of the contributions of people with physical disabilities. In 1988, Congress designated NDEAM, and acknowledged the importance of including those with mental health conditions and other nonobvious disabilities in the recognition; and

WHEREAS, Leading up to America's 250th anniversary in 2026, this year's observance will highlight the achievements of Americans with disabilities both past and present. "Celebrating America means celebrating the value and talent that all Americans – including people with disabilities – add to our nation's workplaces and communities," said Secretary of Labor Lori Chavez-DeRemer. That is the spirit behind this year's official theme: "Celebrating Value and Talent," and

WHEREAS: This year also marks the 35th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The ADA, together with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, established the rights of adults and children with disabilities to participate fully in all aspects of American society, and

WHEREAS: Clark County Developmental Disabilities Advisory Board provides community leadership on improvement of efficiency and effectiveness of community developmental disabilities programs; and

WHEREAS: The City of Ridgefield supports the goals of equity, equal opportunity, independent living and economic self-sufficiency for people with disabilities.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MATT COLE, Mayor of the City of Ridgefield, do hereby proclaim the month of October 2025 as

"DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS MONTH"

and urge all residents to embrace the talents and skills that workers with disabilities offer and to promote the right to equal employment for all.

Dated this 11th day of September 2025

CITY OF RIDGEFIELD

Matt Cole, Mayor