

PROCLAMATION



Office of the Mayor

WHEREAS, the City of Appleton is committed to the safety, health, and well-being of all its residents; and

WHEREAS, Co-Responders and Crisis Responders play a vital role in ensuring that individuals experiencing mental health crises, substance use disorders, and other behavioral health challenges receive the appropriate care and support they need; and

WHEREAS, Co-Responder programs, which pair law enforcement officers with behavioral health professionals, have proven to be an effective approach in reducing the use of force, diverting individuals from the criminal justice system, and connecting them with community resources; and

WHEREAS, Crisis Responders provide immediate support and intervention, de-escalating situations and helping individuals in crisis access necessary services, thus improving public safety and fostering trust within our community; and

WHEREAS, since the implementation of the Co-Responder Team by the Appleton Police Department three years ago, the community has experienced significant benefits, including reduced trauma for individuals in crisis, fewer 72-hour holds, and a reduction in the escalation of crises, thanks to improved access to timely and appropriate resources; and

WHEREAS, the dedication, compassion, and professionalism of Co-Responders and Crisis Responders, who work tirelessly under challenging conditions, have a profound impact on the well-being of our residents and the quality of life in our community, making it fitting to recognize and honor their invaluable contribution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT I, JACOB A. WOODFORD, Mayor of the City of Appleton, Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim September 15-21, 2024, as

Co-Responder & Crisis Responder Week

in the City of Appleton and encourage all residents to join in recognizing, celebrating, and raising awareness to the important work of Co-Responders and Crisis Responders in our community.



Signed and sealed this 10th day of September 2024.

JACOB A. WOODFORD
MAYOR OF APPLETON