

# CITY OF CHARLOTTESVILLE



## *Proclamation*

### **BENEFIT PROGRAMS SPECIALIST APPRECIATION MONTH**

**WHEREAS** the Department of Social Services provides a safety net to the most vulnerable citizens of the City of Charlottesville by administering benefit programs including the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF), Medicaid, Auxiliary Grants, Foster Care IV-E, Refugee Assistance, Energy Assistance, and the Virginia Initiative for Employment not Welfare (VIEW); and

**WHEREAS** Benefit Programs Specialists strive to adhere to Virginia Department of Social Services core values of Commitment to Excellence, performing high-quality work with integrity, civility and accountability; Embracing Differences, being culturally sensitive, valuing diverse backgrounds and ensuring fairness and inclusion; and People First by upholding a commitment to the Commonwealth working each day to create better outcomes for the individuals, families and community; and

**WHEREAS** Charlottesville's Benefit Programs Specialists, Self-sufficiency Specialists, and Program Support staff continue to experience unprecedented implementation of complex policies and procedures in all major benefit programs as well technological advances; and

**WHEREAS** Charlottesville's Benefits Division staff have been at the forefront of public efforts to meet the need, steadily maintaining a high rate of application processing and case management to ensure that those qualified for social services receive and continue to receive them; and

**WHEREAS** the Charlottesville Department of Social Services has demonstrated leadership throughout the state in professional organizations, innovative service delivery, and supportive programs that improve the quality of life for the people served;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED** that the Charlottesville City Council hereby recognizes February as Benefit Programs Specialist Appreciation Month, commending staff for a job well done, and we call upon members of the Charlottesville community to join in acknowledging their public service contributions.

Signed and sealed this 17<sup>th</sup> day of February 2026.

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Juandiego Wade, Mayor

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Kyna Thomas, Clerk