

# CITY OF CHARLOTTESVILLE



## *Proclamation*

### **AMERICAN RED CROSS MONTH MARCH 2026**

**WHEREAS** during the month of March we recognize the selfless contributions of volunteers, donors, and supporters who give their time, resources, and compassion to further the American Red Cross mission “to prevent and alleviate human suffering in the face of emergencies”; and

**WHEREAS** the American Red Cross is synonymous with helping people in crisis and has been doing so for more than 140 years; this generous spirit is woven into the fabric of our community and advances the humanitarian legacy of American Red Cross founder Clara Barton, who nobly dedicated herself to alleviating suffering; and

**WHEREAS** kindhearted individuals in our community exemplify Barton’s commitment as they step up through the American Red Cross Central Virginia Chapter to provide a beacon of hope for our neighbors in need; and

**WHEREAS** the American Red Cross continues to embody the values of humanity, impartiality, neutrality, independence, voluntary service, unity, and universality, promoting a world where people are cared for and protected, no matter their circumstances; and

**WHEREAS** through their selfless contributions volunteers make a lifesaving difference in people’s darkest hours; in 2025 at least 141 local Red Cross volunteers provided 23 Charlottesville families (54 individuals) with shelter, food, and comfort after a crisis; hosted 59 blood drives, collecting 1,617 units of lifesaving blood; provided 33 support services to aid military families through the unique challenges of service; and provided 3,237 local individuals with First Aid, CPR, AED and other lifesaving training;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED** that the Charlottesville City Council recognizes March 2026 as American Red Cross Month, and we encourage all community members to join in its noble humanitarian efforts to strengthen and uplift our community.

Signed and sealed this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of March 2026.

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Juandiego Wade, Mayor

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Kyna Thomas, Clerk