



# County Commissioners of Charles County

## PROCLAMATION 2023-76

### White Cane Awareness Day

**WHEREAS**, the white cane, which every blind resident of our County has the right to carry, demonstrates and symbolizes the ability to achieve a full and independent life and the capacity to work productively in competitive employment; and

**WHEREAS**, the white cane, by allowing every blind person to move freely and safely from place to place, makes it possible for the blind to fully participate in and contribute to our society and to live the lives they want; and

**WHEREAS**, every resident should be aware that the law requires that motorists and cyclists exercise appropriate caution when approaching a blind person carrying a white cane; and

**WHEREAS**, Maryland law calls upon employers, both public and private, to be aware of and utilize the employment skills of our blind citizens by recognizing their worth as individuals and their productive capabilities; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Maryland and Charles County, through public agencies and with the cooperative assistance of the National Federation of the Blind of Maryland, can and should facilitate the expansion of employment opportunities for and greater acceptance of blind persons in the competitive labor market.

**NOW, THEREFORE, WE, THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND**, do hereby proclaim October 15, 2023 as **White Cane Awareness Day** in Charles County and call upon our schools, and colleges to offer full opportunities for training to blind persons; for businesses to utilize the available skills of competent blind persons; and for residents to recognize the white cane as a tool of independence for blind persons.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF  
CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND

Reuben B. Collins, II, Esq., *President*

Ralph E. Patterson, II, MA., *Vice President*  
District 4

Gilbert O. Bowling, III  
District 1

Thomasina O. Coates, M.S.  
District 2

Amanda M. Stewart, M.Ed.  
District 3



Attest:

Carol A. DeSoto, Clerk to the Commissioners