



# County Commissioners of Charles County

## PROCLAMATION 2021-43

### DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS' WEEK

**WHEREAS**, direct support professionals are integral to the physical and mental health and well-being of individuals of all ages with intellectual, developmental, and other disabilities; and

**WHEREAS**, direct support professionals provide essential support to help keep individuals with disabilities connected to their family, friends, and community and enable them to live meaningful lives in a community of their choice; and

**WHEREAS**, a direct support professional must build a close, trusted relationship with an individual with disabilities; and

**WHEREAS**, a direct support professional assists an individual with disabilities with the most intimate needs on a daily basis, and provides a broad range of support, from preparing meals and medications to personal care to transporting clients to school, work, and other activities; and

**WHEREAS**, direct support professionals are devoted to providing support services to individuals with developmental and intellectual disabilities by giving them the opportunity to explore and maximize independence in their community; and

**WHEREAS**, there is a documented critical and growing shortage of direct support professionals in every community throughout the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, direct support professionals, are the primary providers of long-term support and services for millions of individuals with disabilities.

**NOW, THEREFORE, WE, THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND**, do hereby proclaim the week of September 12-18, 2021 as **DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS' WEEK** in Charles County and encourage all residents to express sincerest gratitude and unfailing support for these professionals and to recognize and appreciate the dedication and contributions of these providers to enhancing the lives of the people they support.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF  
CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND

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

Bobby Rucci, *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 Board of Commissioners

