

# LOCAL PROCLAMATION

TO ALL WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME, GREETINGS:

**WHEREAS**, just like those who came before us, it is our duty to protect the children of this state and maintain communities in which they may all be given the opportunity to succeed; and

**WHEREAS**, we must all work earnestly to create courageous and supportive environments that acknowledge the traumatic past, promote the healing of the wounds created by racial and ethnic bias, and build an equitable and just society so that all of Arkansas's children can thrive; and

**WHEREAS**, Children have the right to be provided every opportunity to learn, grow, and thrive in nurturing environments that do not violate their safety, dignity, and humanity; and

**WHEREAS**, every single person can exhibit an act of kindness to make a simple change within themselves that can have a profound effect on an entire society; and

**WHEREAS**, if we all dedicate ourselves to the principles of TRUTH, RACIAL HEALING, and TRANSFORMATION, we can all bring about the necessary changes in thinking and behavior that will propel this great state forward as a unified force where racial biases will become a thing of the past; and

**WHEREAS**, Racial healing is a vital and crucial commitment to the education, social, mental, and overall well-being of all citizens in the City/County of Bella Vista/Benton, particularly children; and

**WHEREAS**, the City/County of Bella Vista/Benton in Conjunction with other local jurisdictions throughout the State of Arkansas, acknowledges January 17, 2023, as the NATIONAL DAY OF RACIAL HEALING IN THE CITY/COUNTY OF BELLA VISTA/BENTON.

and urges all citizens to promote racial healing and transformation in the ways that are best suited for them individually, as a means of working together to ensure the best quality of life for every child.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, John D. Flynn, Mayor of the City/County of Bella Vista/Benton by virtue of the authority vested in me by the laws of the State of Arkansas, do hereby proclaim January 17, 2023, as **NATIONAL DAY OF RACIAL HEALING IN THE CITY/COUNTY OF** Bella Vista/Benton.

**IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the City/County of Bella Vista/Benton to be affixed this 9<sup>th</sup> day of February, in the year of our Lord 2023.

SIGNED:

