

CLAY COUNTY, INDIANA NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP WEEK PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, National Apprenticeship Week is celebrating its ninth anniversary of raising awareness of the vital role Registered Apprenticeships provide in creating opportunities by allowing apprentices to earn while they learn and preparing a pathway to good, quality jobs and well-paying careers throughout Western Indiana and across the nation; and

WHEREAS, Clay County, along with counties throughout Western Indiana, recognize the urgent need to prepare and maintain an inclusive, diverse and highly skilled workforce that is capable of meeting the demands of the industry sectors that we serve and fortifying our economy; and

WHEREAS, Registered Apprenticeship programs enable employers to develop and train their future workforce while offering career seekers pathways to secure high-paying jobs, and

WHEREAS, Clay County, along with counties throughout Western Indiana, recognizes the role of Registered Apprenticeship in expanding opportunities in our workforce that are inclusive of individuals who have been historically underserved, marginalized, and adversely affected by persistent poverty and inequality, thus providing a path for all qualified individuals, including women, youth, people of color, rural communities, justice-involved individuals and individuals with disabilities, to become apprentices and contribute to America's industries; and

WHEREAS, Clay County, along with counties throughout Western Indiana, recognizes that Registered Apprenticeship, a proven and industry-driven training model, can train our workforce and build a pipeline into good, quality jobs in order to address our nation's pressing workforce challenges such as rebuilding our country's infrastructure, addressing critical supply chain demands, addressing today's health care challenges, supporting a clean energy workforce, modernizing our cybersecurity response, and responding to care economy issues.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mart Heffner, representing the Clay County Indiana Commissioners, do hereby declare November 13, 2023, through November 19, 2023, as National Apprenticeship Week in Clay County and the additional counties that make-up Indiana Region 7 Western Indiana.

IN SUPORT,

Mart Heffner
Clay County Commissioner