

PROCLAMATION



Office of the Mayor

WHEREAS, a series of events, including COVID-19 and widespread civil unrest, led to unprecedented increases in hopelessness, and hopelessness for many is a consequence of discrimination and oppression, as it is learned and includes emotional despair and motivational helplessness; and

WHEREAS, hopelessness is a major symptom of depression, anxiety, addiction, violence, self-harm, homelessness, early death, failure to graduate from school, suicide, poor health, and under-performance; and

WHEREAS, research has shown that hope is teachable, and higher hope leads to increased community engagement, a more productive workforce, stronger relationships, higher graduation rates, longer lifespans, less crime, less addiction, and reduced poverty as hope is an inhibiting factor against anxiety and depression, and can be learned at any age; and

WHEREAS, the International Foundation for Research and Education on Depression (“iFred”) has been researching and teaching the Science of Hope worldwide since 2013, launching the Hopeful Cities initiative which seeks to teach all populations the “how-to” of hope; and

WHEREAS, hope is available to all and is possible no matter what life brings; and iFred has created a Hopeful Cities Playbook, a free tool that cities can use to operationalize hope as it is time to create a wise-spread movement for hope.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT I, JACOB A. WOODFORD, Mayor of the City of Appleton, do hereby proclaim Monday, May 1, 2023, as

Day of Hope

in Appleton, launching a week of hope for all to share the science, story, and strategies of hope in Appleton, our surrounding communities, the state of Wisconsin, and cities around the world.



Signed and sealed this 3rd day of May 2023.

JACOB A. WOODFORD
MAYOR OF APPLETON