

Proclamation



WHEREAS, Dr. Evelyn Gibson Lowery has passionately dedicated her life to correcting the often-overlooked contributions of women to the Civil Rights Movement, and founded SCLC/W.O.M.E.N., Inc. (Women's Organizational Movement for Equality Now, Inc.) in 1979 to create intergenerational programs designed to address health disparities, human rights, social action, and economic self-sufficiency, and to foster leadership development impacting women, children, and families; and



WHEREAS, Dr. Lowery, alongside her husband and Civil Rights Leader, Rev. Dr. Joseph E. Lowery, helped shape the Movement, and spearheaded countless groundbreaking initiatives, including establishment of the first National Conference on the Survival of the Black Family in 1980, followed by a national youth conference the next year, and the creation of the Drum Major for Justice Awards Banquet on April 4, 1980; and



WHEREAS, Dr. Lowery recognized the disparities in health education and outcomes affecting African Americans, and championed AIDS/HIV education through conferences, sermons, litanies, and other religious resources, ensuring the African-American community was informed and empowered; and



WHEREAS, Dr. Lowery founded the "Original" Evelyn G. Lowery Civil Rights Heritage Tour in 1987; a two-day motor coach journey throughout Alabama that erected 13 monuments along the civil rights trail to honor the legacy of key leaders; and



WHEREAS, Dr. Lowery expanded the scope of SCLC/W.O.M.E.N., Inc. with initiatives like the Women's Empowerment Training Center for GED and computer training in 1988, the Bridging the Gap Girls to Women mentoring program in 1995, and several others; on November 19, 1994, the SCLC/W.O.M.E.N., Inc. Training Center was formally dedicated as a beacon of hope and a vital resource for education, empowerment, and leadership development, and will be renamed the Dr. Evelyn Gibson Lowery SCLC/W.O.M.E.N., Inc. Building and Training Center;



NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Fulton County Board of Commissioners recognizes Dr. Evelyn Gibson Lowery for her lifelong dedication to civil rights for all citizens, and her enduring dedication to building strong and equitable communities, and does hereby proclaim Tuesday, February 4, 2025, as "**DR. EVELYN GIBSON LOWERY APPRECIATION DAY**" in Fulton County, Georgia.

Fulton County Board of Commissioners

Commissioner

Attest:

Clerk to the Commission

F U L T O N C O U N T Y