

# Proclamation



FULTON  
COUNTY

WHEREAS, Health literacy is defined as the degree to which individuals have the ability to find, understand, and use information and services to inform health-related decisions and actions for themselves and others, and the degree to which organizations equitably enable individuals to find, understand, and use information and services to inform health-related decisions and actions for themselves and others; and



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WHEREAS, The American Medical Association estimates that 9 in 10 adults lack sufficient health literacy skills necessary to prevent and manage disease and chronic conditions and effectively seek and obtain healthcare; and



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WHEREAS, adults with low health literacy report reduced ability to understand labels and health messages, limited ability to follow medication instructions, poor overall health status, worse physical and mental health, experience healthcare costs that are 4 times greater, have 6% more hospital visits, and longer hospital stays; and



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WHEREAS, addressing overwhelming health literacy needs can reduce healthcare costs and improve the accessibility, quality, safety, and patient satisfaction of healthcare, and improve the health and quality of life for thousands of Fulton County residents; and



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WHEREAS, The Fulton County Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities, in partnership with the Health Literacy Community Coalition Board, Morehouse School of Medicine, and the Fulton County Board of Health, addresses personal and organizational health literacy to improve mental and physical health outcomes among socially vulnerable populations through culturally appropriate strategies;



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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Fulton County Board of Commissioners recognizes Fulton County Department of Behavioral Health for their dedication to ensuring that all Fulton residents have the information they need to live happy and healthy lives, and does hereby proclaim the month of October as "HEALTH LITERACY MONTH" in Fulton County, Georgia.



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*Fulton County Board of Commissioners*

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Sponsoring Commissioner

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Vice Chair

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Commissioner

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Commissioner

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Commissioner

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Commissioner

Attest:  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk to the Commission

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