

**CREIGHTON UNIVERSITY'S CENTER FOR PROMOTING HEALTH AND HEALTH EQUITY  
NAW PROCLAMATION**

WHEREAS, National Apprenticeship Week is celebrating its 9<sup>th</sup> 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 in Omaha and across the nation; and

WHEREAS, the Creighton University's Center for Promoting Health and Health Equity recognizes the urgent need to prepare and maintain an inclusive, diverse and highly-skilled workforce of Community Health Workers (CHWs) capable of reducing health disparities, reducing healthcare costs, building trust between vulnerable communities and healthcare providers, and helping vulnerable communities advocate for their needs; and

WHEREAS, Registered Apprenticeship programs enable employers to develop and train their future workforce while offering career seekers pathways to good, quality jobs and well-paying careers; and

WHEREAS, Creighton University's Center for Promoting Health and Health Equity recognizes the role of Registered Apprenticeship in expanding opportunities in the CHW workforce that include 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, Creighton University's Center for Promoting Health and Health Equity recognizes that Registered Apprenticeship, a proven and industry-driven training model is recognized as a key strategy to improving job quality, and creating access to good-paying, family-sustaining jobs for all, starting with youth and young adults, while addressing some of our nation's issues in the healthcare industry, including addressing root causes of health inequality, providing whole-person healthcare, and reducing healthcare costs.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Sade Kosoko-Lasaki, MD, MSPH, MBA, and John Stone, MD, PhD, Co-Founders and Co-Executive Directors of Creighton University's Center for Promoting Health and Health Equity, call upon healthcare and human services to recognize the value of Registered Apprenticeships for Community Health Workers, and to promote industry awareness and expansion during the 9<sup>th</sup> anniversary of National Apprenticeship Week: November 13 through November 19, 2023.

IN SUPPORT,



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