

**MY STORY MATTERS®
NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP WEEK PROCLAMATION**

WHEREAS, National Apprenticeship Week celebrates its 12th anniversary of raising awareness of the vital role Registered Apprenticeships provide in creating opportunity by allowing individuals to earn while they learn, preparing pathways to meaningful employment, leadership development, and sustainable careers across Utah and throughout the nation; and

WHEREAS, *My Story Matters*® recognizes the urgent need to develop an inclusive, emotionally intelligent, and highly skilled workforce—one that is capable of meeting the evolving demands of our communities while strengthening families, workplaces, and systems; and

WHEREAS, Registered Apprenticeship programs create powerful pathways for individuals to gain real-world experience, build competence, and develop leadership capacity while contributing immediate value within their environments; and

WHEREAS, *My Story Matters*® has directly experienced the value of apprenticeship pathways through the development of Guides, peer mentors, and leaders—individuals who, through structured training and applied practice, expand their ability to support others, model accountability, and strengthen community outcomes; and

WHEREAS, Registered Apprenticeship expands access to opportunity for individuals who have been historically underserved, including justice-involved individuals, youth, parents, and those navigating critical life transitions—providing a pathway to stability, self-reliance, and contribution; and

WHEREAS, *My Story Matters*® recognizes apprenticeship as a proven, relationship-centered and skill-based development model that not only strengthens workforce readiness, but also builds emotional regulation, communication, and leadership skills essential for long-term success and generational impact;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, **Amy Chandler, Executive Director** of *My Story Matters*®, call upon our partners, community leaders, employers, and stakeholders across Utah to recognize the value of Registered Apprenticeship programs and to promote awareness, participation, and expansion during the 12th anniversary of National Apprenticeship Week: **April 26 through May 2, 2026**.



Amy Chandler
Executive Director