

# FHI 360 YOUTH APPRENTICESHIP WEEK PROCLAMATION

**MAY 5 – 11, 2024**

WHEREAS Youth Apprenticeship Week is celebrating its inaugural year of raising awareness of the vital role Youth Apprenticeships provide in creating opportunities by allowing youth to earn while they learn and preparing a pathway to good, quality jobs and well-paying careers across the nation.

WHEREAS Youth 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 the ability to advance in those careers; and

WHEREAS, FHI 360 recognizes the role of Youth Apprenticeship in expanding opportunities in our workforce that are inclusive of young people who have been historically underserved, marginalized, and adversely affected by persistent poverty and inequality, thus providing a path for all qualified individuals, including women, people of color, rural communities, justice-involved individuals and individuals with disabilities, to become apprentices and contribute to America's industries; and

WHEREAS, FHI 360 recognizes that Youth 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 pressing workforce challenges such as rebuilding our country's infrastructure, addressing critical supply chain demands, supporting a clean energy workforce, modernizing our cybersecurity response, and responding to care economy issues.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lisa Johnson, Portfolio Director of the National Institute for Work and Learning at FHI 360, call upon all youth serving agencies and employers to recognize the value of Youth Apprenticeship, and to promote industry awareness and expansion during the 1<sup>st</sup> annual event of Youth Apprenticeship Week: May 5, 2024, through May 11, 2024.

IN SUPPORT,

*Lisa M. Johnson*

Lisa Johnson, Portfolio Director

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