

**PROCLAIMING SEPTEMBER 18 – 22, 2023, AS NATIONAL ADULT
EDUCATION AND FAMILY LITERACY WEEK**

WHEREAS, more than 43 million Americans can't read or write at the most basic level while 62.7 million lack basic math skills, as well as the credentials and skills necessary to succeed in post-secondary education; and

WHEREAS, every year, one in three young adults drop out of high school; and

WHEREAS, American Action Forum estimates that America is short an estimated 7.5 million private sector workers across all skill levels; and

WHEREAS, Adult Education programs contribute to solving these challenges by helping Americans move along the continuum in their educational journey to achieve basic skills and get prepared for career and college; and

WHEREAS, Adult Education and family literacy programs assist adults who are parent or family members in obtaining the education and skills that are necessary to become full partners in the educational development of their children and lead to sustainable improvements in the economic opportunities for their family; and

WHEREAS, the 52 local adult education providers in South Carolina provide instruction and testing services for residents seeking to attain a high school equivalency credential and support adults in strengthening core literacy, numeracy, and digital skills, learning English as a second language and civics, and preparing for college or to immediately enter a career pathway; and

WHEREAS, in 2022 – 2023, Dorchester County Adult Education served 428 adult learners; 94 earned a high school equivalency diploma (GED); 59 English Language Learners completed skills upgrades and / or graduated with a high school credential; 8 met their family literacy goals; 5 met their workplace literacy goals; 31 obtained a workplace credential; and 800 digital literacy lessons were taught; and

WHEREAS, Dorchester County Council celebrates Adult Education and Family Literacy Week as a proud participant in the National Educate & Elevate Campaign which helps our citizens learn about all of their Adult Education options to attain their professional and personal goals.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that Dorchester County Council hereby proclaims September 18 – 22, 2023, as Adult Education and Family Literacy Week and encourages all citizens to work together to increase literacy among the residents of Dorchester County.

ADOPTED THIS 5TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2023.

BY: S. Todd Friddle
S. Todd Friddle, Chairman
Dorchester County Council

ATTEST: Tracey L. Langley
Tracey L. Langley
Clerk to Council

