

# STATE OF OKLAHOMA



EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

## Proclamation

**Whereas**, more than 43 million Americans can't read or write at the most basic level, and 62.7 million lack basic math skills, as well as the credentials and skills necessary to succeed in post-secondary education. Nearly 20% of adult Oklahomans are functionally illiterate. That is 560,000 adult Oklahomans; and

**Whereas**, literacy rates are typically the lowest in economically disadvantaged communities. These low literacy rates often correlate with high unemployment rates, high crime rates, and welfare dependency. Every year, one in three young adults drops out of high school; and

**Whereas**, by promoting adult education and family literacy, we can ensure that all Oklahoma families are prepared to help their children learn to read, write, and receive math instruction; 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 programs in high schools and adult schools, community colleges, and community centers offer low cost, high value programs that upgrade the skill set of our citizens; and

**Whereas**, our Oklahoma Association for Adult and Continuing Education celebrates National 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**, I, Governor J. Kevin Stitt, do hereby proclaim September 16<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024, as

**"National Adult Education and Family Literacy Week"**

in the State of Oklahoma

*In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Oklahoma to be affixed.*



*Done at the Capitol, in the City of Oklahoma City, this twelfth day of September, in the Year of Our Lord two thousand and twenty-four, and of the State of Oklahoma in the one hundred and sixteenth year*

SECRETARY OF STATE

GOVERNOR