

CITY OF LAKEWOOD



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Blue Star Families seeks to empower military families by connecting them with their neighbors — individuals and organizations — to create vibrant communities of mutual support; and

WHEREAS, Blue Star Families annually designates the week beginning the second to last Saturday in September and concluding eight days thereafter as “Blue Star Welcome Week”; and

WHEREAS, during this week, we recognize the 600,000 active-duty and transitioning military families who move to new communities each year; and

WHEREAS, nearly half of these permanent change of station (PCS) moves occur during the summer; and

WHEREAS, only 33% of military family respondents to the 2022 Military Family Lifestyle Survey reported that they feel a sense of belonging to their local civilian community; and

WHEREAS, a sense of belonging is essential to the well-being and readiness of military families; and

WHEREAS, we commit to ensuring that military — and Veteran — connected families feel a strong sense of belonging to their local civilian communities; and

WHEREAS, we express gratitude for the sacrifices made by service members, transitioning Veterans, and their families; and

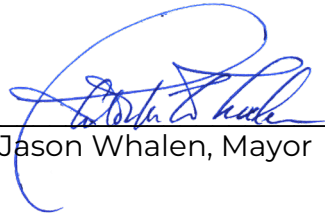
WHEREAS, we encourage civilians nationwide to welcome military- and Veteran-connected families into their communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Lakewood City Council do hereby proclaim September 23, 2023 through October 1, 2023 as

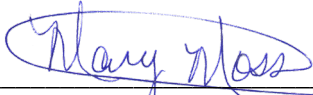
BLUE STAR WELCOME WEEK

In the City of Lakewood, Washington.

PROCLAIMED this 18th day of September, 2023.



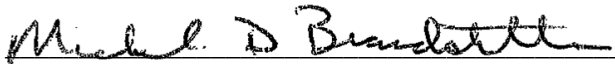
Jason Whalen, Mayor



Mary Moss, Deputy Mayor



Don Anderson, Councilmember



Michael D. Brandstetter, Councilmember



Patti Belle, Councilmember



J. Trestin Lauricella, Councilmember



Paul Bocchi, Councilmember