

ARLINGTON HEIGHTS PROCLAMATION

International Widows Day June 23, 2024

WHEREAS, International Widows Day is a global awareness day that takes place annually on June 23. The day was launched by the United Nations in 2010 to raise awareness of the needs and plight of widows and their families globally, nationally and locally in order to give them a voice to be heard, seen, understood, and served; and

WHEREAS, there are currently nearly 14 million widows in the United States, 258 million widows globally, and 585 million children globally who are directly affected by the loss of a father; and


WHEREAS, consequently, the Modern Widows Club, an Orlando-founded national non-profit was founded in 2011 and leads the United States in advocacy, mentoring, and leadership for women in widowhood; and

WHEREAS, the **Greater Chicagoland** Chapter of the Modern Widows Club was established in 2016 and serves to empower women in widowhood within the greater Chicago area and provide them with the tools to lean into life, build resilience, and make positive differences in their own lives and those of others in their communities; and

WHEREAS, supportive communities are able to greatly assist and empower widows and their families to become thriving and vital members of society through understanding the crucial needs in widows' lives and aiding in the development of services, programs, outreach, and community involvement from all those within our city, state, and nation to ensure widows and their families become thriving and vital members of society at large; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting and proper that the Village of Arlington Heights, IL recognizes the **Greater Chicagoland** Chapter of Modern Widows Club and honors June 23rd as International Widows Day.

THEREFORE, I, Thomas W. Hayes, Mayor of the Village of Arlington Heights, IL, along with the Village Board, do hereby proclaim June 23, 2024 as International Widows Day, a United Nations Day of Observance and I encourage all citizens to join me in recognizing and supporting the **Greater Chicagoland** Chapter of Modern Widows Club in raising awareness for the need for advocacy, mentoring, and leadership for women in widowhood.


Thomas W. Hayes, Mayor

Trustee Richard Baldino
Trustee James Bertucci
Trustee Wendy Dunnington
Trustee Nicolle Grasse

Trustee Robin LaBedz
Trustee Tom Schwingbeck
Trustee Scott Shirley
Trustee Jim Tinaglia

