

City of Wheaton, Illinois



PROCLAMATION

West Suburban Foundation for Disabled Veterans

WHEREAS, the West Suburban Foundation for Disabled Veterans ("WSFDV") was founded in Wheaton in February 2005 with a mission to provide housing and other living needs to disabled veterans and their families; and

WHEREAS, the foundation's inaugural mission was to build a wheelchair accessible home for Sergeant Joel Gomez, a United States Army veteran and Wheaton resident who was rendered quadriplegic during combat duty in the Iraq War; and

WHEREAS, since its founding, WSFDV has remained steadfast in its commitment to assisting disabled veterans and their families in overcoming challenges related to housing, mental health, and overall well-being; and

WHEREAS, WSFDV actively partners with and supplements the work of other veteran service organizations by referring individuals to critical resources such as crisis hotlines, counseling, and substance abuse treatment programs – addressing both the physical and psychological needs of veterans in our community; and

WHEREAS, on July 12, 2025, WSFDV will host the ROCKIN' FOR OUR VETS Concert for Charity, in partnership with Cantigny and the Gary Sinise Foundation, featuring Gary Sinise & the Lt. Dan Band at Cantigny in Wheaton – a patriotic and life-changing event that brings the community together in support of our military and veteran families; and

WHEREAS, this year's concert will celebrate the 20th anniversary of ROCKIN' FOR OUR VETS by supporting 20 selected charitable organizations that benefit veterans, marking two decades of impactful service and commitment; and

WHEREAS, WSFDV continues to serve as a vital advocate for local veterans and encourages all members of the community to join in supporting those who have served our nation.

NOW THEREFORE, the City of Wheaton does hereby proclaim July 12th as "**West Suburban Foundation for Disabled Veterans Day**" in the City of Wheaton and urges all residents to honor, celebrate and support our veterans and their families.

DATED this 2nd day of June 2025.

ATTEST:

Andrea Rosedale
City Clerk

Philip J. Suess
Mayor, Philip J. Suess

