

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 20<sup>th</sup> 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 12<sup>th</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> day of June 2025.

ATTEST:

City Clerk

  
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Mayor, Philip J. Suess