

DURHAM BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

*Proclamation*

**WELCOMING WEEK | 2024**

**WHEREAS,** Welcoming Week was launched in 2012 by Welcoming America as an annual campaign and celebration to showcase the movement of communities striving to be more welcoming places for all, including immigrants; and

**WHEREAS,** U.S. Census data reflects that 14.7% of the County of Durham’s population is foreign-born, compared to 13.5% of the nation’s population being foreign-born; and

**WHEREAS,** Welcoming Week provides individuals and communities the opportunity to proclaim and exercise their “welcoming” values through events and initiatives that build stronger relationships between native-born and foreign-born residents; and

**WHEREAS,** the County of Durham strives to be a welcoming, diverse and innovative community, that prioritize racial equity and ensuring that those who have been historically excluded from decision-making have a voices; and

**WHEREAS,** the County of Durham aim to strengthen their foundation and improve the quality of life for all residents through their commitment to foster communities that are connected, engaged, and diverse.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Nida Allam, Chair and on behalf of the Durham Board of County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim September 13 – 22 2024, as

**“WELCOMING WEEK”**

in Durham County and urge all residents to intentionally seek opportunities to remove individual, institutional and systemic barriers so that Durham County is a place where all residents, regardless of their origin of birth, are welcome and have a sense of belonging.

This the 9<sup>th</sup> day of September 2024

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Nida Allam, Chair  
Durham Board of County Commissioners

