

# Proclamation

WHEREAS, We have all witnessed racial divisiveness rising in America's urban, rural, suburban, and tribal communities today that threatens the very core of this great country's unified front; and

WHEREAS, Divisions along racial and other lines have created an increasingly polarized society in need of healing; and

WHEREAS, We understand and recognize that there is a racial divide in our country and all must work earnestly to heal the wounds created by racial, ethnic and religious bias and build an equitable and just society in which all people can thrive; and

WHEREAS, Nonprofit organizations are uniquely positioned to bridge these divides, bring together communities, and work to change longstanding systems and policies that benefit some groups while marginalizing, excluding, or harming others; and

WHEREAS, Government organizations are better able to fulfill their missions, understand and embrace the full diversity of their communities and social realities that affect us all, when they are led by boards that are intentionally diverse in composition, inclusive in culture, and equity-focused in development of strategies and solutions to deepen the impact on, and the relevance and advancement of the public good; and

WHEREAS, If we dedicate ourselves to the principles of truth, racial healing and transformation, we can bring about the necessary changes in thinking and behavior that will propel this great country forward as a unified force where racial biases will become a thing of the past; and

WHEREAS, Racial healing is a vital and crucial commitment to the educational, physical, social and mental well-being of all people; Now, Therefore, Be It

PROCLAIMED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners declares January 18, 2022 as Day of Racial Healing in Ramsey County; and Be It Further

PROCLAIMED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners, in conjunction with others throughout the United States, urges all Ramsey County residents to commit to racial healing and transformation in the ways best suited for them individually and as a community, as a means of working together to ensure the greatest quality of life for every resident.



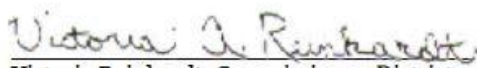
Trista MatasCastillo, Board Chair, District 3



Mary Jo McGuire, Commissioner, District 2



Rafael E. Ortega, Commissioner, District 5



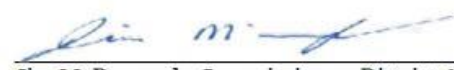
Victoria Reinhardt, Commissioner, District 7



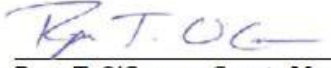
Nicole Frethem, Commissioner, District 1



Toni Carter, Commissioner, District 4



Jim McDonough, Commissioner, District 6



Ryan T. O'Connor, County Manager