

## **National Women's History Month Proclamation**

**WHEREAS**, women of diverse race, class, and ethnic background have made historic contributions to the economic, cultural, civic and social growth of our county, state and nation in countless ways, including in business, arts and culture, politics, education, science and technology; and

**WHEREAS**, women have become leaders in predominately male-dominated environments, breaking through glass ceilings, surpassing previous limits and paving the way for future women CEOs, scientists, athletes, government officials and civic leaders; and

**WHEREAS**, by presidential proclamation, March is designated as Women's History Month to honor women's contributions in American history; and

**WHEREAS**, the National Women's History Alliance has selected "Visionary Women: Champions of Peace & Nonviolence" as the 2019 Women's History Month theme, honoring "women who have led efforts to end war, violence, and injustice and pioneered the use of nonviolence to change society," and

**WHEREAS**, Salt Lake County is and has been home to women who have been champions of peace and nonviolence and have made positive impacts in our community through their efforts; and

**WHEREAS**, Mignon Barker Richmond was the first African-American woman to graduate from a college in Utah, and served throughout her life as an education advocate, human rights activist and community leader; and

**WHEREAS**, Deb Sawyer, a peace activist whose commitment to creating a more peaceful world began nearly 40 years ago, helped create the Utah Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons and the Gandhi Alliance for Peace, and has encouraged others to become "hooked" on democracy, human rights and nonviolent problem solving; and

**WHEREAS**, Erika George, a professor of law at the University of Utah's S. J. Quinney College of Law, has elevated the issue of human rights both locally and internationally through her advocacy of global justice and her research on violence against women and the HIV/AIDS epidemic; and

**WHEREAS**, organizations such as Better Days 2020, a statewide non-profit organization dedicated to popularizing Utah women's history, work to educate residents about the women who affected change in our community and throughout our state.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Jenny Wilson, Mayor of Salt Lake County, do hereby join with Congress in proclaiming March 2019 as

## Women's History Month

and encourage residents of Salt Lake County to not only remember and recognize the countless women who defined the course of Utah and American history, but to encourage and support the young women of today who will chart the course for our future.