



Gahanna

Proclamation

NATIONAL BLACK BUSINESS MONTH

August 2021

WHEREAS: National Black Business Month was founded in 2004 by John William Templeton and Frederick E. Jordan, Sr., to recognize the important role of Black-owned businesses throughout the country and to encourage their continued development; and

WHEREAS: Templeton and Jordan believed that highlighting Black entrepreneurs and encouraging people to support their businesses was key to reducing barriers for Black-owned businesses, and “could result in more than 40,000 additional jobs during the month and as many as 450,000 if the patterns are continued over the course of a year”; and

WHEREAS: Black-owned businesses account for approximately 10 percent of U.S. businesses and about 30 percent of all minority-owned businesses, which amounts to 2.6 million businesses in the U.S. that generate approximately \$150 billion in annual receipts; and

WHEREAS: The number of Black-owned businesses – and those owned by women – continues to grow, as the number of firms owned by Black women grew 164% from 2007 to 2018, nearly three times the average rate; and

WHEREAS: Supporting and promoting Black-owned businesses helps to close the racial wealth gap and encourages the flourishing of the local community and culture; and

WHEREAS: Gahanna is home to hundreds of Black-owned businesses that provide family-supporting jobs and careers to residents, and these businesses are a vital and proud component of our diverse community.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Laurie A. Jadwin, Mayor of the City of Gahanna, Ohio, urge Gahanna citizens to patronize, strengthen and support Black-owned businesses in our community, not only during the month of August but throughout the year, and do hereby proclaim August 2021 as

NATIONAL BLACK BUSINESS MONTH

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Gahanna, Ohio, to be affixed on this 2nd day of August in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-One.




Laurie A. Jadwin, Mayor