

**A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING OCTOBER 18, 2023 AS UNITY DAY IN THE
VILLAGE OF WESTCHESTER**

WHEREAS, Westchester is composed of people who are all different, yet all live, work, and reside together in our Village; and

WHEREAS, in the course of living and working together, there is sometimes conflict and even behaviors, like bullying, that cause strife and hardship; and

WHEREAS, many children and adolescents are affected by bullying annually, causing pain and health repercussions that can last for years; and

WHEREAS, targets of bullying are more likely to acquire physical, emotional, and learning problems and students who are repeatedly bullied often fear such activities as riding the bus, going to school, and attending community activities; and

WHEREAS, the presence of bullying in our community creates an environment that may hold our children back from being all they can be; and

WHEREAS, research has shown that promoting and modeling behaviors of kindness, acceptance of difference, and inclusion creates healthier communities for all people with fewer incidences of bullying; and

WHEREAS, coming together, Westchester is united in our desire to create a healthier community for all; and

WHEREAS, Unity Day would bring all citizens together to celebrate kindness, acceptance of difference, and inclusion to protect our Proviso Township communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, that I, Greg Hribal, Village President, of the Village of Westchester, do hereby proclaim October 18, 2023 as Unity Day in the Village of Westchester. I urge all schools, students, parents, recreation programs, religious institutions, and community organizations to engage in Unity Day, bringing all citizens together to celebrate kindness, acceptance of difference, and inclusion to protect our town from bullying and create a healthier community. I encourage all Westchester residents and businesses to wear orange on Unity Day to show a message of support, hope, and unity.

PROCLAIMED this 10th day of October, 2023.



Greg Hribal, Village President

Attest:


Sophia Collins, Village Clerk