

PROCLAMATION

World Day of Social Justice 2026

WHEREAS, the United Nations General Assembly established the World Day of Social Justice in 2007, to be observed annually on February 20, to affirm that peace, security, and shared prosperity are achieved when justice and human rights are realized for every person; and

WHEREAS, movements for human rights and representation strive for a world where racial and ethnic equity is upheld, immigrants and refugees are welcomed with dignity, women and girls are empowered, LGBTQIA+ individuals are affirmed, children and elders are protected, people with disabilities are fully included, reproductive freedom is respected, and every person has a voice in our democracy through fair representation and voting access; and

WHEREAS, World Day of Social Justice serves both as a time for reflection and a call to action. This day underscores that current injustices with climate crises, xenophobia, and state-sanctioned violence demand collective responses grounded in principles of fairness and shared responsibility; and

WHEREAS, environmental justice efforts work toward healthy air, clean water, resilient communities, and a stable climate, and call for thoughtful evaluation of resource-intensive industrial developments such as data centers and warehouses and their impacts on water, power, and neighborhood well-being, so that present and future generations may live and thrive in safe and sustainable environments; and

WHEREAS, communities continue to promote safety, freedom, and well-being by standing against all forms of violence, including state-sanctioned violence; incidents include the fatal shootings of Renée Nicole Good and Alex Pretti by ICE agents in Minneapolis and multiple deaths of individuals such as Geraldo Lunas Campos while in ICE custody, illustrating the urgent need for accountability and humane treatment for all people, and by upholding privacy and digital security, safeguarding freedom of expression, and ensuring that all people can live without fear; and

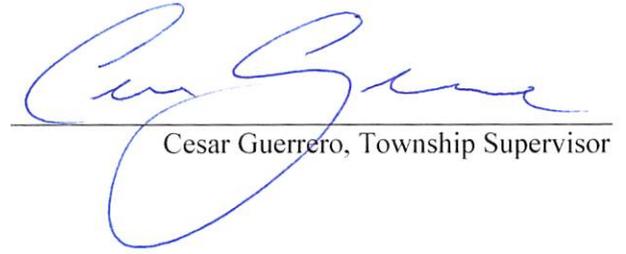
WHEREAS, every level of government has the duty to advance social justice through the enactment of laws, the development of policies, and the implementation of public programs where every individual has access to quality education, affordable healthcare, strong public health systems, access to healthy food, clean water, safe and stable housing; and

WHEREAS, World Day of Social Justice calls upon all governments to prioritize people-centered policies and programs over the short-term interests of a few and to recognize that injustice can persist not only through harmful actions but also through inaction and neglect; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of World Day of Social Justice is to amplify voices against social injustice and to promote social justice on a global scale. In a world that can feel filled with division and insurmountable issues, social justice offers a pathway toward unity and shared progress. By embracing social justice principles, humanity can advance towards a future in which dignity, equity and opportunity are not seen as privileges, but as the standard;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Joliet Township Government hereby proclaims February 20, 2026, as World Day of Social Justice in Joliet Township, and encourages all residents to honor the work of those advancing equity and to join in building a more just, inclusive, and hopeful world for present and future generations.

ADOPTED this 10th day of February of 2026.



Cesar Guerrero, Township Supervisor

ATTEST:



Kendra Landfair, Township Clerk