



PROCLAMATION

César Chávez Day 2026

WHEREAS, César E. Chávez, born on March 31, 1927, was a nationally recognized labor leader, civil rights activist, and community organizer whose lifelong work advanced the dignity, rights, and fair treatment of farm workers and working families; and

WHEREAS, alongside Dolores Huerta, César Chávez co-founded the United Farm Workers, organizing farm workers through collective action, education, and solidarity to advocate for fair wages, safe and humane working conditions, and the right to organize; and

WHEREAS, Chávez championed nonviolent resistance as a powerful tool for social change, leading historic marches, boycotts, and fasts, including a 300 mile march to Sacramento and multiple hunger strikes, to draw attention to the injustices faced by migrant and agricultural workers; and

WHEREAS, guided by the belief that “Sí, se puede” meaning “Yes, we can,” César Chávez inspired generations of workers, organizers, and leaders to stand up against exploitation and to work collectively toward equity, justice, and opportunity for all; and

WHEREAS, César Chávez Day is recognized in Illinois and across the nation as a time for reflection, learning, and service, honoring a legacy that continues to shape movements for workers’ rights, civil rights, environmental justice, and community empowerment; and

WHEREAS, the values embodied by César Chávez, including dignity in labor, respect for humanity, and collective action for the common good, remain deeply relevant as communities continue to confront inequities in wages, working conditions, health, and access to opportunity;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Joliet Township Government hereby proclaims March 31, 2026, as César Chávez Day in Joliet Township, and encourages residents to honor his legacy through service, education, and continued efforts to advance dignity, equity, and justice for workers and families in our community.

ADOPTED this 10th day of March of 2026.


Cesar Guerrero, Township Supervisor

ATTEST:


Kendra Landfair, Township Clerk