



# *Proclamation*

**WHEREAS,** a father plays a unique and vital role in the lives of his children as a mentor, protector, and provider, and nurturing care giver, a father can fundamentally influence the shape and direction of his children's character by giving love without conditions, discipline without anger, and guidance by example; and

**WHEREAS,** it is in the best interest of a community to encourage and support committed and capable fathering in all its forms, biological, foster, adoptive, stepfather, or grandfather; and

**WHEREAS,** raising a child requires significant time, effort, and sacrifice, and we acknowledge being a father as one of the most meaningful and fulfilling roles a man can know; and

**WHEREAS,** responsible fatherhood is essential to a healthy and civil society, and we recognize the many fathers who are heroes and role models for their children and encourage more men to fulfill this responsibility by spending as much time with their children as they can, sharing their interests, skills, experiences, and traditions with their children, taking an active role in their children's development, getting involved with their children's education, and role modeling values of honesty, integrity, and respect for others.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, MATTHEW SERRATTO, Mayor** of the City of Merced do hereby proclaim June 2024 to be "All Dads Matter Month" in City of Merced and call upon its citizens to recognize and support the crucial role that fathers can play in the lives of their children. Our efforts can improve the lives of many families and help pave the way for future generations.

Signed this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of June 2024.

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*Matthew Serratto, Mayor of Merced*

