## PROCLAMATION

## Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month ~ May 2023

- **WHEREAS**, "Asian American and Pacific Islander" encompasses many ethnic groups with diverse backgrounds, histories, languages, and cultures. Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month celebrates the collective accomplishments of these communities; and
- **WHEREAS**, generations of immigrants from every corner of the globe have built our country's economy and created the unique character of our nation: growing businesses, bringing innovation, strengthening our economy, creating jobs, and developing leaders; and
- **WHEREAS**, the Lao Family Community Development (LFCD) was founded by newly arrived refugees from Laos, 43 years ago. To date, LFCD has guided and supported over 400,000 disadvantaged Northern Californians to become self-sufficient. While it still works with and are active in the Lao, Iu Mien and Hmong communities, its client population has grown beyond any one ethnic group and serves all families in need. The LFCD staff deliver service in 35 different languages-with clients representing well over 40 countries-and offering uncommon service hours and mobile service; and
- WHEREAS, LFCD, led by its CEO Kathy Chao Rothberg, serves people who face challenges in the area of poverty and high unemployment; housing insecurity and homelessness, limited-English proficiency, facing food insecurity, domestic and family violence, lack of work experience and marketable job skills, live in low-income, high-crime neighborhoods, who lack of financial literacy, credit and savings, untreated chronic health and mental health conditions; who lack of personal transportation; lack of access to affordable childcare; justice-involved history and many more challenges; and
- **WHEREAS,** LFCD strengthens the community by providing comprehensive wrap around services such as income & family support, education and skills training, jobs and career counseling and placement, health access, permanent and homeownership housing, and employer services proficiently partnering with our public, CBO, and private sector.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the City Council of the City of Elk Grove hereby affirms and proclaims May 2023 as Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month in the City of Elk Grove, and we thank Lao Family Community Development and their CEO Kathy Chao Rothberg for their commitment to the community.

**SIGNED** this 24th day of May, 2023.

BOBBIE SINGH-ALLEN, MAYOR

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KEVEN SPEASE, VICE MAYOR

SERGIO ROBLES, COUNCIL MEMBER

ROD BREWER, COUNCIL MEMBER

DARREN SUEN, COUNCIL MEMBER