

# Grand Junction

State of Colorado

## PROCLAMATION

*WHEREAS, for over 50 years, Community Health Centers have provided high-quality, affordable, comprehensive primary and preventive health care in our nation's underserved communities, delivering value to, and having a significant impact on America's health care system; and*

*WHEREAS, MarillacHealth serves as our local Health Center and has provided care in Mesa County for 30 years; and*

*WHEREAS, as the country's largest primary care network, Health Centers are the health care home for 27 million Americans. In 2017, 11,485 patients walked through the doors of MarillacHealth, a 23% increase over 2016; and*

*WHEREAS, Health Centers are a critical element of the health system, serving both rural and urban populations, and often providing the only accessible and dependable source of primary care in their communities; and*

*WHEREAS, every day, Health Centers develop new approaches to integrating a wide range of services beyond primary care, including oral health, vision, behavioral health, and pharmacy services, to meet the needs and challenges of their communities; and*

*WHEREAS, Health Centers are governed by patient-majority boards and are locally owned and operated small businesses that help to power local economies; and*

*WHEREAS: Health Centers reduce overall costs of care by helping manage patients' chronic conditions, which keeps them out of costlier health care settings like hospital emergency rooms; and*

*WHEREAS: National Health Center Week offers the opportunity to recognize America's Health Centers, including MarillacHealth in Mesa County. We celebrate Marillac's 85 staff at our 5 delivery sites, 14 Board Members, numerous partnerships, 11,500 patients and all those responsible for their continued success and growth since they first opened their doors 30 years ago; and*

*WHEREAS: during National Health Center Week, we celebrate the legacy of America's Health Centers, and their vital role in shaping the past, present, and future of America's health care system.*

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, Barbara Traylor Smith, by the power vested in me as Mayor of the City of Grand Junction, do hereby proclaim August 12 – 18, 2018 as*

### **"NATIONAL HEALTH CENTER WEEK"**

*in the City of Grand Junction and encourage members of our community to celebrate our local Community Health Center, MarillacHealth, and the important role it plays in providing affordable, quality medical, dental, optical and behavioral health care to those who need it in our community.*

*IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official Seal of the City of Grand Junction this 1<sup>st</sup> day of August, 2018.*

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Mayor

