

*Office of the Mayor*

# Proclamation

**Whereas:**

The Lima Community recognizes Jackie Fox as a model of servant leadership, tenacity, and strength; and,

**WHEREAS:** Through her 28 years of faithful service at the West Ohio Community Action Partnership, Jackie made a difference in the lives of hundreds of Lima residents, and her advocacy will leave an unwavering legacy in this community;

**WHEREAS:** Jackie's strength of character is further evidenced when considering her path to leadership. Jackie did not have an ideal start to her adulthood. As a single, teen mother, Jackie worked two jobs to provide for her family. Jackie saw the first-hand benefits of the Head Start program as a mother with children enrolled in the program, and so she started her career of community service as a Head Start teacher, ultimately advancing to become the Director of Head Start in Allen County; and

**WHEREAS:** Personally experiencing the impact of these community agencies, Jackie had a passion for empowering others to overcome adversity by providing the right opportunities and support. So while raising a family, Jackie pursued a Bachelor's degree in Organizational Management from Bluffton University, achieving the honor of being the first person in her family to attain a bachelor's degree; and

**WHEREAS:** Jackie's determination and passion continued to drive her career path eventually led to her accepting the position as the Executive Director of WOCAP where her work and passion around early childhood education, tenant protection, and providing assistance for those in need left a distinct impression on our community that will be felt for decades; and

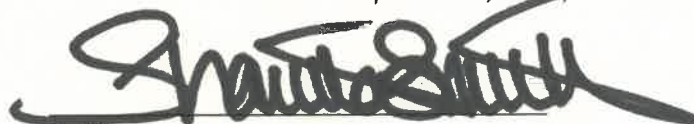
**WHEREAS:** Jackie's strength of character is even further evidenced by how quick she was to give recognition and appreciation to her family and the community agencies that supported her career path and education goals.

**NOW THEREFORE:** I, Sharetta Smith, Mayor of the City of Lima, Ohio, do hereby proclaim August 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023, as

**Jackie Fox Day**

in Lima, Ohio, and encourage all community members to reflect on the impact one life can have on a region.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF,** I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Seal of the City of Lima, Ohio, this 26th day of August 2023.



SHARETTA SMITH, MAYOR  
CITY OF LIMA, OHIO

