



Office of the Mayor

Proclamation

Whereas:

Every day for 43 years, Head Start and Early Head Start families in Allen County have benefited from Mary Yvonne Collins' dedication and commitment to the Head Start Program; and

WHEREAS:

Mary Collins, also known as Ms. Mary, was born in Mississippi and moved to Lima in 1976, where she began her career with the Head Start program. Back then most classrooms were housed in the basements of local churches. Staff had to pack up their classroom each week so that the church could use the classrooms for Sunday school. The children were transported in mini vans or staff could pick them up on their way to work. Classroom ratios were as high as 24:1; and

WHEREAS:

Ms. Mary has held many positions within the Head Start program throughout her career. She has been a Co-Teacher, Teacher, Mentor-Teacher, Center Based Coordinator and Education Coordinator. Along with supervising classroom staff, Ms. Mary supervised the Home Based program, food program, school pictures and served as a member on the Education Advisory Committee at Rhodes State College; and

WHEREAS:

Throughout her employment, Ms. Mary has served as an excellent role model to the children, parents, staff and administrators, inspiring them all with her leadership, positive attitude, and her strong advocacy for the best interests of WOCAP and the Head Start/Early Head Start Program.

NOW THEREFORE:

I, David J. Berger, Mayor of the City of Lima, Ohio do hereby proclaim January 3, 2020 as

Mary Collins Day

in the City of Lima, Ohio and ask all citizens to acknowledge the outstanding service of Mary Collins during the past 43 years, enriching Lima and Allen County with her dedication to the youth of our community .

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Seal of the City of Lima, Ohio, this 3rd day of January, 2020.



Handwritten signature of David J. Berger

DAVID J. BERGER, MAYOR  
CITY OF LIMA, OHIO