## COUNTY OF TIOGA EXECUTIVE PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS: August is National Immunization Awareness Month with immunizations representing one of the greatest public health accomplishments of the 20<sup>th</sup> century; and

WHEREAS: If following the recommended immunization schedule, immunizations give parents the safe, proven power to protect their children from serious communicable diseases. However in 2020, less than 50% of children in Tioga County aged 24-35 months received their recommended vaccine series, compared to over 60% of New York State; and

WHEREAS: Child care facilities, preschool programs, schools and colleges are prone to outbreaks of infectious diseases due to poor hand washing, not covering coughs, and other factors such as interacting in crowded environments; and

WHEREAS: The release of immunizations for COVID-19 has reiterated the importance of educating the public on the benefits of vaccination to reduce rates of missed school and work, and rates of severe illness and/or death from the novel coronavirus; and

WHEREAS: Immunizations are an important part of a healthy pregnancy and allow the mother to pass some protection on to her baby. Women should be up to date on their immunizations before becoming pregnant and should receive immunizations against both flu and whooping cough during pregnancy; and

WHEREAS: All adults should get immunizations to protect their health. Even healthy adults can become seriously ill and pass diseases on to others. Everyone should have their immunization needs assessed at their primary care provider's office; therefore

The TIOGA COUNTY LEGISLATURE, County of Tioga, does hereby proclaim the month of August 2022 as:

## **IMMUNIZATION AWARENESS MONTH**

and urges the citizens of our County to educate themselves on the recommended immunizations for themselves and their children to prevent the spread of preventable diseases.

Dated: August 9, 2022

MARTHA SAUERBREY, CHAIR

MARTHA SAUERBREY, CHAIR TIOGA COUNTY LEGISLATURE