



## Fremont County Board of Commissioners

### Proclamation

# *National Public Health Week*

**WHEREAS**, the week of April 6, 2026, is National Public Health Week and the theme is “Ready. Set. Action!” highlighting that public health actions occurring through scientific discoveries, legislation and community initiatives have significantly improved the health of all Americans; and

**WHEREAS**, significant strides have been made in public health since the inception of National Public Health Week in 1994, including the following public health successes:

- (1) childhood mortality, which was at a rate of 13.8 deaths per 1,000 live births in 1994, has now fallen to 5.4 deaths per 1,000 live births due to vaccines, better health care access and nutrition;
- (2) smoking rates, which were as high as 25.5% among U.S. adults in 1994, have now fallen to 11.4 % due at least in part to increased public awareness of tobacco’s health effects;
- (3) mental health awareness and treatment, with 40% of people with mental health conditions being untreated in 1994, has progressed with increased awareness and integration into primary care, which has expanded access to mental health services and reduced treatment gaps;
- (4) lead poisoning, with 4.4% of U.S. children having elevated blood lead levels in 1994, has now fallen to less than 0.5% due to policies banning leaded gasoline and reducing lead in paint, pipes and water systems; and

**WHEREAS**, a person’s health status can differ drastically by ZIP code due to differences in the built environment, environmental quality, community context, access to healthy food, access to education and access to health care; and

**WHEREAS**, public health organizations use National Public Health Week to educate public policymakers, public health professionals and the public on issues that are important to improving the health of the people of the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, public health professionals help communities prevent, prepare for, withstand and recover from the impact of a full range of health threats, ranging from infectious disease outbreaks to natural disaster preparedness; and

**WHEREAS**, efforts to adequately support public health and the prevention of disease and injury can continue to transform a health system focused on treating illness into a health system focused on preventing disease and injury and promoting wellness.



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**NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE PROCLAIMED** by the County Commissioners of Fremont County by the virtue of authority vested in this Board, that the week of April 6-12, 2026, is hereby designated as National Public Health Week in Fremont County and the residents of Fremont County are called upon and encouraged to observe this week by recognizing and thanking public health professionals for their dedicated service; learning about public health challenges facing our community; supporting policies that strengthen public health infrastructure; participating in community health initiatives; and committing to personal and collective actions that advance the health and wellbeing of our community.

Signed this 24<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2026.

**Kevin Grantham**  
District 1 Commissioner

**Debbie Bell**  
District 2 Commissioner

**Dwayne McFall**  
District 3 Commissioner