



ERIN MENDENHALL  
*Mayor*

**PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, Blue Star Families seeks to empower military families by connecting them with their neighbors — individuals and organizations — to create vibrant communities of mutual support; and

**WHEREAS**, Blue Star Families annually designates the week beginning the second to last Saturday in September and concluding eight days thereafter as “Blue Star Welcome Week”; and

**WHEREAS**, during this week, we recognize the 600,000 active-duty and transitioning military families who move to new communities each year; and

**WHEREAS**, nearly half of these permanent change of station (PCS) moves occur during the summer; and

**WHEREAS**, only 33% of military family respondents to the 2022 Military Family Lifestyle Survey reported that they feel a sense of belonging to their local civilian community; and

**WHEREAS**, a sense of belonging is essential to the well-being and readiness of military families; and

**WHEREAS**, we commit to ensuring that military- and Veteran-connected families feel a strong sense of belonging to their local civilian communities; and

**WHEREAS**, we express gratitude for the sacrifices made by service members, transitioning Veterans, and their families; and

**WHEREAS**, we encourage civilians nationwide to welcome military- and Veteran-connected families into their communities.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Erin Mendenhall, Mayor of Salt Lake City, proclaim September 23, 2023 - October 1, 2023 as:

***Blue Star Welcome Week in Salt Lake City.***

September 1, 2023

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Erin Mendenhall".

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*Erin Mendenhall*  
*Mayor*