



May 1, 2017

Dear Employees of Kent County:

First and foremost: **THANK YOU!** The week of May 7-13, 2017, is designated by Congress as Public Service Recognition Week (PSRW), and we are grateful for the opportunity to say thank you for all you do on behalf of the County and its residents. We witness your remarkable contributions and achievements every day, and are proud of your efforts to serve the public. Thank you for your ongoing dedication and service.

In case you are not aware, PRSW has been celebrated since 1985 during the first full week in May as a time to honor those who serve our nation as federal, state, county, and local government employees. We are thrilled to recognize our employees here in Kent County and plan to go one step further. This year, we will celebrate some of your incredible accomplishments with four newly-established awards:

- **Excellence in Innovation**
- **Excellence in Collaboration**
- **Excellence in Community Impact**
- **Chairman's Excellence in Action Award**

These awards are built around the Performance Measures every department sets annually and goals met for 2016. Next year we intend to add one additional award for **Excellence in Diversity, Equity and Inclusion**. These four awards will be presented on Thursday, May 11, 2017, at 8:30 a.m. at the Board of Commissioners' meeting.

Even during the most difficult times, you work to find innovative solutions to complex issues through hard work, determination, and collaboration. Your dedication does not go unnoticed, and we want you to know that we are proud to serve with you.

Stay tuned to our social media pages for more about these awards and significant accomplishments: [facebook.com/KentCountyMI](https://www.facebook.com/KentCountyMI) and twitter.com/KentCountyMI.

With gratitude,

James R. Saalfeld
Chair, Kent County Board of Commissioners

Daryl Delabbio
Kent County Administrator/Controller