



SHAKER HEIGHTS

The Mayor's Report

September 2019

One of the defining attributes of Shaker Heights is our open and welcoming spirit. We have long been a City that welcomes everyone and embraces differences because they enrich and enliven our schools and community. While we are always striving to better understand each other and find new ways to connect, I have seen firsthand how we approach conversation and interactions with a genuine desire to create an inclusive place to call home for all residents.

In our ongoing commitment to promote these values, City Council recently adopted important ordinances that further strengthen anti-discrimination laws in Shaker Heights. The expanded protections now clearly safeguard the rights of the LGBTQ community to be free from discrimination in employment, housing and public accommodations. I am proud to say that Shaker Heights showed great leadership in enacting these comprehensive LGBTQ protections. This legislation helps to define who we are and makes clear that we will actively work to protect rights and ensure equal access to opportunities for everyone who chooses to live in our City.

My visits to block parties and events this summer have confirmed to me that we are indeed a generous and open community; and one that welcomes diverse people and families from across the country and around the world. And there is no shortage of ways that we help make Shaker feel like home including the work of our Human Relations Task Force, neighborly block parties, the International Women's Group of Cleveland based here in Shaker, the Chinese Academy of Cleveland located at the Middle School, our robust student exchange programs at the High School, and ESL classes at the library. We are truly a place that welcomes the world.

I'm proud to be the Mayor of our City and pledge to continue to find ways to express our values of diversity and inclusiveness in all the work we do.

Thank you.