



PROCLAMATION

NATIONAL AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH

APRIL 2021

WHEREAS, Autism Awareness Month is observed annually in April, and April 2 is recognized as the United Nations-sanctioned World Autism Awareness Day; both designations are intended to increase understanding and acceptance of people with autism; and

WHEREAS, Autism, or autism spectrum disorder, refers to a broad range of conditions characterized by challenges with social skills, repetitive behaviors, speech, and nonverbal communication; it is often accompanied by medical issues such as GI disorders, seizures, sleep disturbances, anxiety, and depression; research indicates that early diagnosis, intervention, and access to support services leads to positive outcomes later in life for people with the disorder; and

WHEREAS; the National Autism Awareness month is backed by the Autism Society of America which has local chapters throughout the United States which hold special events throughout April and undertake a number of activities to raise awareness about autism; and

WHEREAS, Autism Awareness Month promotes acceptance and celebration of autistic people who are our family members, friends, classmates, co-workers, and community members and the valuable contributions they make to our world; and

WHEREAS, Autism is a natural variation of the human experience, and we can all create a world which values, includes, and celebrates all kinds of minds; and

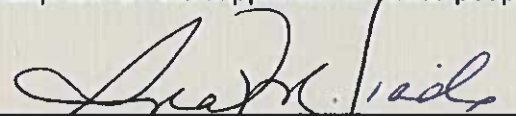
NOW, THEREFORE, the Mayor and City Commission recognizes and proclaims the month of April as

National Autism Awareness Month

and encourages all residents to be better informed; more empathetic and supportive towards people with autism.

Dated this 30th day of March, 2021




MAYOR ANA M. ZIAIDE