

RESOLUTION NO. 047-2024(CRR),
First Reading

By Mayor Seren

A Resolution proclaiming April 2024 to be *National Autism Acceptance Month* and April 2, 2024 to be *World Autism Awareness Day*; and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

WHEREAS, autism, the fastest growing developmental disability in the United States, affects more than three million (3,000,000) people and is an urgent public health crisis that demands a national response; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of the growing needs of the worldwide autistic community and to raise awareness about autism spectrum disorders and the need to provide services to individuals and families who are affected, the United Nations has sanctioned April 2nd as *World Autism Awareness Day*; and

WHEREAS, Autism Speaks, an organization dedicated to enhancing lives today and accelerating a spectrum of solutions for tomorrow, promotes the awareness of autism worldwide; and

WHEREAS, in light of the growing impact of autism spectrum disorders and the need for greater awareness, Autism Speaks holds its "Light It Up Blue!" campaign on *World Autism Awareness Day*, designed to increase awareness about autism by asking participating organizations to turn their lights blue; and

WHEREAS, the City of Cleveland Heights is honored to take part in the annual observance of *National Autism Acceptance Month* and *World Autism Awareness Day* in the hopes that it will lead to a better understanding of the disorder.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Cleveland Heights, Ohio, that:

SECTION 1. This Council hereby proclaims the month of April 2024 to be *National Autism Acceptance Month* in the City of Cleveland Heights and further proclaims April 2, 2024 to be *World Autism Awareness Day*, to raise public awareness of autism and the myriad of issues surrounding autism, as well as to increase knowledge of the programs that have been and are being developed to support individuals with autism and their families.

SECTION 2. Notice of the passage of this Resolution shall be given by publishing the title and abstract of its contents, prepared by the Director of Law, once in one newspaper of general circulation in the City of Cleveland Heights.

SECTION 3. It is necessary that this Resolution become immediately effective as an emergency measure necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and

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safety of the inhabitants of the City of Cleveland Heights, such emergency being the need to recognize *National Autism Acceptance Month* and *World Autism Awareness Day* on a timely basis. Wherefore, provided it receives the affirmative vote of five (5) or more members elected or appointed to this Council, this Resolution shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its passage; otherwise, it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest time allowed by law.



TONY CUDA
President of Council



ADDIE BALESTER
Clerk of Council

PASSED: March 18, 2024

Presented to Mayor: 03/19/2024

Approved: 03/28/2024



KAHLIL SEREN
Mayor