

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-R-52

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTH MIAMI, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING THE MONTH OF APRIL AS AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE AND ALL OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, one in 36 children in the United States has been diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder; and

WHEREAS, individuals living with autism spectrum disorder can achieve independence and live purposeful lives when afforded the support system and opportunities that each and everyone deserves; and

WHEREAS, many individuals and families living with autism know that acceptance is often one of the largest barriers to finding and developing a strong support system; and

WHEREAS, autism spectrum disorder represents a broad range of conditions that vary widely from mild to severe, and is characterized by unique social interactions, non-standard ways of learning, keen interests in specific subjects, inclination to routines, challenges in verbal and non-verbal communication, and particular ways of processing sensory information; and

WHEREAS, autism is four times more likely to occur in boys than in girls, and is reported to occur in all racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic groups; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention determined that approximately 1 in 100 children is diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder; and

WHEREAS, early intervention affords the best opportunity to support healthy development and delivers benefits across a lifespan to improve learning, communication, and social skills, as well as underlying brain development; and

WHEREAS, the United Nations General Assembly adopted Resolution 62/132 on December 18, 2007, to designate April 2 as World Autism Awareness Day, to be observed every year; and

WHEREAS, many organizations and foundations are working to create and promote opportunities for people with autism through advocacy, education, economic opportunities, and humanitarian efforts; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council recognize that each person with autism has a distinct set of strengths and challenges and encourages autism awareness through educational efforts that seek to support people with autism and their families; and

WHEREAS, the City of North Miami designates the month of April as Autism Awareness Month to encourage residents to learn more about autism and the lived experience of those with autism and autism spectrum disorder from people with autism and work to build a more welcoming and inclusive community for people with autism.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT DULY RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTH MIAMI, FLORIDA:

Section 1. **Designation.** The Mayor and City Council of the City of North Miami, Florida, designates the month of April as Autism Awareness Month.

Section 2. **Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by a 5 - 0 vote of the Mayor and City Council of the City of North Miami, Florida, this 9th day of April, 2024.



ALIX DESULME, ED.D.
MAYOR

ATTEST:



VANESSA JOSEPH, ESQ.
CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM
AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:



JEFF P. H. CAZEAU, ESQ.
CITY ATTORNEY

SPONSORED BY: COUNCILMAN PIERRE FRANTZ CHARLES

CO-SPONSORED BY: VICE-MAYOR MARY ESTIMÉ-IRVIN &
COUNCILWOMAN KASSANDRA TIMOTHE

Moved by: Desulme

Seconded by: Estime-Irvin

Vote:

Mayor Alix Desulme, Ed.D.	<u>X</u> (Yes) _____ (No)
Vice-Mayor Mary Estimé-Irvin	<u>X</u> (Yes) _____ (No)
Councilman Scott Galvin	<u>X</u> (Yes) _____ (No)
Councilwoman Kassandra Timothe, MPA	<u>X</u> (Yes) _____ (No)
Councilman Pierre Frantz Charles, M.Ed.	<u>X</u> (Yes) _____ (No)