

KKF
4/27/2022

RESOLUTION NO. _____ - 2022

RECOGNIZING the month of April as Autism Awareness and Acceptance Month to increase awareness of the unique needs and strengths among those with autism and to promote the acceptance and valuing of the of unique gifts of individuals with autism.

WHEREAS, Autism Spectrum Disorder (“ASD”) is a complex developmental disorder that can impact the way a person learns, communicates, and interacts with others and can vary in severity based on the individual; and

WHEREAS, ASD is characterized by behavioral and communicational affectations that affect an individual’s ability to navigate social interactions and causes repetitive and restricted behavior; and

WHEREAS, autism is the fastest-growing developmental disorder in the United States, with one in 44 children diagnosed with ASD; and

WHEREAS, there are an estimated 4,375 children in Hamilton County with autism and 1,565 in the City of Cincinnati; and

WHEREAS, autism disorders can affect all persons regardless of race, color, or socio-economic status, however it is more common in boys than girls; and

WHEREAS, early diagnosis and intervention programs lead to significantly improved outcomes for individuals with autism; and

WHEREAS, there is an increasing need for an awareness and acceptance of those with autism through improved opportunities and supports in education, employment, and community involvement; and

WHEREAS, Linden Grove School began over thirty years ago as a small parent cooperative for families whose children did not fit into the mainstream education system and was established to meet the increasingly diverse needs of students with autism spectrum disorder and related learning needs; and

WHEREAS, Linden Grove School is dedicated to encouraging a supportive community where children with autism in grades K-8 can develop the skills and confidence to become valued, participating members of our community; and

WHEREAS, Linden Grove School accomplishes its mission by maintaining a small school setting with low teacher-student ratios, researching and implementing the latest evidence-based teaching methods, delivering support services including occupational and speech therapy, and supporting social skills and behavioral development; and

WHEREAS, Autism Awareness and Acceptance Month was established to spread awareness, foster acceptance, and educate the community on autism and how to ensure a quality life for individuals with autism; and

WHEREAS, during April 2022 the aim of Autism Awareness and Acceptance Month is to celebrate differences and build an inclusive society for individuals with autism to live fully through connection and acceptance; and

WHEREAS, the City of Cincinnati wishes to express its appreciation for individuals with autism and the people in their lives who support them, including family members, professionals, and all who work every day to create more opportunities for those with autism; and

WHEREAS, the City of Cincinnati is committed to educating the public, promoting awareness, and disseminating research findings to the general public on the subject of autism and how to increase acceptance of those with autism; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Cincinnati, State of Ohio:

Section 1. That the Mayor and this Council recognize the month of April as Autism Awareness and Acceptance Month and hereby increase awareness of the unique needs and strengths among those with autism and promote the acceptance and valuing of the unique gifts of individuals with autism.

Section 2. That a copy of this resolution be spread upon the minutes of Council and a copy sent to Linden Grove School through the office of Councilmember Victoria Parks.

Passed: _____, 2022

Aftab Pureval, Mayor

Attest: _____
Clerk

Submitted by Councilmember Victoria Parks