

THE CITY OF FARGO

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Proclamation

WHEREAS, Autism spectrum disorders are a complex developmental condition that can cause significant social, communication and behavioral challenges; and

WHEREAS, According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), approximately 1 in 36 children in the United States is diagnosed with an autism spectrum disorder, representing a significant increase from previous estimates; and

WHEREAS, In North Dakota, it is estimated that 4,000 individuals live with an autism spectrum disorder, including more than 750 residents in Fargo; and

WHEREAS, Early diagnosis, intervention and access to appropriate support services are crucial for improving outcomes and quality of life for individuals with autism and their families; and

WHEREAS, The economic impact of autism is significant, with the total cost of care annually for individuals in the United States estimated to exceed \$268 billion, highlighting the need for increased support and resources for affected individuals and families; and

WHEREAS, Fargo is committed to supporting its residents with autism spectrum disorders and their families by promoting awareness, understanding and access to necessary resources and services throughout the community.


NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Dr. Timothy J. Mahoney,
Mayor of the City of Fargo, North Dakota, do hereby proclaim April 2024 as

AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH

in Fargo and encourage all residents to increase their understanding and acceptance of individuals with autism spectrum disorders and to support local autism organizations.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Fargo, North Dakota to be affixed this 1st day of April, 2024.


Dr. Timothy J. Mahoney
Mayor
Fargo, North Dakota