

CITY OF WAYNESVILLE



Proclamation

WHEREAS, in the United States, more than 5.4 million adults are autistic, and 1 in every 44 children has been diagnosed with autism; and

WHEREAS, autism can cause challenges with verbal and nonverbal communication, social interaction and repetitive behaviors and can affect anyone, regardless of age, race, ethnicity, gender or socioeconomic background; and

WHEREAS, autistic people continue to face obstacles when seeking employment, health care, education, and housing, and the immense contributions of people with autism are often overlooked; and

WHEREAS, a comprehensive, collaborative approach will help to advance research, providing a better understanding of the many forms of autism, while strengthening advocacy efforts and ensuring access to services and resources throughout the life span; and

WHEREAS, early diagnosis and intervention tailored to individual needs can have lifelong benefits, easing the transition to adulthood and fostering greater independence; and

WHEREAS, each person and family affected by autism should have access to reliable information, supports and opportunities to live up to their greatest potential; and

WHEREAS, the City of Waynesville is honored to take part in the annual observance of World Autism Awareness Month to address the diverse needs of individuals and families affected by autism.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, I, **Sean A. Wilson**, Mayor of the City of Waynesville, MO., do hereby proclaim April 2023 as:

World Autism Awareness Month

and I call upon all citizens to learn more about autism to improve early diagnosis, to learn more about the experiences of autistic people from autistic people, and to build more welcoming and inclusive communities to support people with autism.



MAYOR