

RESOLUTION NO. 36-2020

BY: **ALLAN DIVIS**, BRIAN BROCHETTI, MARK CASSELBERRY,
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A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING APRIL AS
NATIONAL AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH,
AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, the first National Autism Awareness Month was declared by the Autism Society in April, 1970; and,

WHEREAS, autism is a bio-neurological developmental disability that generally appears before the age of 3; and,

WHEREAS, autism impacts the normal development of the brain in the areas of social interaction, communication skills, and cognitive functions; and,

WHEREAS, approximately 40% of children with autism do not speak; roughly 25-30% of children with autism have some words at 12-18 months of age and then lose them; others might speak, but not until later in childhood; and,

WHEREAS, since autism was first diagnosed in the United States, the incidence has climbed to an alarming 1 in 59 children in our country; and,

WHEREAS, autism is the fastest growing developmental disorder, yet most underfunded; and,

WHEREAS, the easily identifiable puzzle piece is the universal symbol of autism awareness, with its diversity of colors and designs representing the variety of people affected by this condition; and,

WHEREAS, currently there is no cure for autism, though with early intervention and treatment, the diverse symptoms related to autism can be greatly improved, and in some cases completely overcome.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PARMA, STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That this Council hereby supports April as "National Autism Awareness Month", and April 2 as "World Autism Awareness Day".

Section 2. That the Clerk of Council is hereby directed to forward a true and accurate copy of this Resolution to the Autism Society of Ohio.

Section 3. That it is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Council, and that all deliberations of this Council and any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements.

Section 4. That this Resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health, safety and welfare of the City of Parma, and for the further reason that this measure is necessary due to the observance taking place during the month of April, 2020, and this Resolution shall become immediately effective upon receiving the affirmative vote of two-thirds of all members elected to Council and approval of the Mayor, otherwise from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

PASSED: _____
PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

ATTEST: _____ APPROVED: _____
CLERK OF COUNCIL

FILED WITH
THE MAYOR: _____
MAYOR, CITY OF PARMA, OHIO