

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Autism is a complex developmental disability; signs typically appear during early childhood and affect an individual's ability to communicate, process sensory input and interact with others; and,

WHEREAS, Autism is the third most common developmental disability, affecting 3.5 million individuals nationwide; and,

WHEREAS, As more health professionals become proficient in diagnosing autism, more children are being diagnosed on the Autism spectrum, resulting in rates as high as 1 in 68 children nationally, and,

WHEREAS, Accurate, early diagnosis, and the resulting appropriate education and intervention are vital to the future growth and development of the individual; and,

WHEREAS, Support groups, such as the Autism Society the Heartland which is an affiliate of the Autism Society, have dedicated years of service in their ongoing efforts to advocate for the rights, humane treatment, and appropriate education of all persons with Autism; and,

WHEREAS, These groups remain committed to awareness and to educating families, professionals, and the general public to better understand this lifelong disability; and,

WHEREAS, Autism Society, now celebrating 53 years of service to the autism community, is spearheading an awareness effort in order to educate parents, professionals, and the general public about creating a better world for autism.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Steve Shute, Mayor of the City of Gardner, Kansas, do hereby proclaim April, 2018 as

Autism Awareness Month

In Gardner, Kansas, and urge all employees and residents to participate in our municipality's National Autism Awareness Month activities, in order to become better educated about autism and create a better community for individuals with autism.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Gardner, Kansas to be affixed this 16th day of April 2018.

CITY OF GARDNER, KANSAS

Steve Shute, Mayor

Attest:

Amy Waller, City Clerk

(SEAL)