## CITY COUNCIL

## The City of Orange Township, New Jersey

DATE <u>April 4. 2023</u>

NUMBER <u>156-2023</u>

TITLE: A RESOLUTION OBSERVING WORLD AUTISM AWARENESS DAY APRIL 2, 2023 IN THE CITY OF ORANGE TOWNSHIP. (Sponsored by Councilmember-At-Large Adrienne Wooten and South Ward Councilmember Jamie Summers-Johnson)

WHEREAS, the United Nations General Assembly declared April 2nd as World Autism Awareness day in 2008 to draw attention to the growing need for innovative programs designed to support those with autism; and

WHEREAS, World Autism Awareness Day, on April 2nd each year shines a bright light on a growing global health crisis; and

WHEREAS, according to the National Autism Association, Autism affects 1 in 59 children; and

WHEREAS, the bio-neurological developmental disability usually presents itself by the age of three, and it is more prevalent in boys than girls; and

WHEREAS, as children with autism grow older, they face all sorts of obstacles; and

WHEREAS, because many don't speak or use social cues as you or if do, they become targets for bullies or are excluded altogether; and

WHEREAS, children with autism are also vulnerable to drowning because they wander from their homes and schools; and

WHEREAS, due to their inability to communicate, they cannot tell someone their name or where they live, either; and

WHEREAS, additionally, adults are more likely to be unemployed or underemployed; and

WHEREAS, however, resources are available for families and schools to help keep children safe and to support them lead happy and healthy lives; and

WHEREAS, the day also focuses on the growing need for programs designed to support those with autism now and in the future.

NOW THREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Municipal Council of the City of Orange Township does observe April 2, 2023 as World Autism Day in the City of Orange Township.

Adopted: April 4, 2023

Joyce L. Lanier City Clerk

Tency A. Eason **Council President** 

