

CITY COUNCIL**The City of Orange Township, New Jersey**DATE October 21, 2025NUMBER 444-2025**TITLE: A RESOLUTION CELEBRATING WORLD POLIO DAY.
(Sponsored by Council Member Quantavia Hilbert).**

WHEREAS, Poliomyelitis, or polio, is a highly infectious virus that spreads mainly through contaminated water and food, mostly striking children under five. It usually settles in the gut but can eventually attack the central nervous system. Its symptoms are brutal, ranging from fever, headaches, and vomiting, to irreversible paralysis in about 1 of every 200 infections. In the worst cases it can even paralyze breathing muscles, causing suffocation; and

WHEREAS, every year on October 24th, World Polio Day is observed to raise awareness of the importance of polio vaccination to protect every child from this devastating disease, and to celebrate the many parents, professionals and volunteers whose contributions make polio eradication achievable; and

WHEREAS, World Polio Day highlights the global efforts to end poliomyelitis (polio) worldwide. Polio is a life-threatening disease caused by the poliovirus; and

WHEREAS, April 12, 2025, was the 70th anniversary of the announcement of the discovery of the first safe and effective polio vaccine; and

WHEREAS, the vaccine was developed by Jonas Salk with the support of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, now known as the March of Dimes Foundation; and

WHEREAS, the vaccine developed by Jonas Salk was proven safe and effective in a massive nationwide field trial organized by the March of Dimes Foundation, relying on the largest peacetime mobilization of volunteers in the history of the United States; and

WHEREAS, polio is a crippling and potentially fatal infectious disease for which there is no cure, which means that vaccination is the only viable pathway for eradication of the disease; and

WHEREAS, nearly 60,000 children in the United States were reported to have polio in 1952 alone, with more than 20,000 cases of paralysis; and

WHEREAS, due to vaccination, polio was eliminated from the United States in 1979; and

WHEREAS, the use of the inactivated polio vaccine developed by Jonas Salk and the oral polio vaccine developed by Albert Sabin has dramatically reduced the incidence of polio worldwide; and

WHEREAS, the fight against polio has been part of the mission of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC") since the 1950s; and

WHEREAS, as part of the fight against polio, the CDC established a national polio surveillance unit and worked with Jonas Salk and Albert Sabin to widely distribute vaccines; and



WHEREAS, according to the CDC, polio vaccination has prevented over 13,000,000 paralytic polio cases and 650,000 deaths since 1988; and

WHEREAS, the success of the polio vaccine has shown the public what sustained medical research can accomplish and should encourage support for future Federal funding for biomedical research and public health prevention and control.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Orange Township hereby celebrates October 24, 2025 as World Polio Day. The City Council of the City of Orange Township further encourages the citizens of the City of Orange Township to observe World Polio Day with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

Adopted: October 21, 2025

Trisha A. Scipio
Acting Deputy City Clerk

Adrienne K. Wooten
Council President