

**PROCLAMATION**

*Autism Acceptance Month in Ann Arbor, Michigan  
April 2022*

*WHEREAS, autism is a pervasive developmental disorder affecting the social, communication and behavioral skill of those affected by it; 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 44 children nationally with Michigan having the 5th largest autism population as compared to other U.S. states; and*

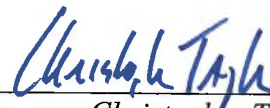
*WHEREAS, while there is no cure for autism, it is well-documented that if individuals with autism receive treatment early in their lives, it often is possible for those individuals to lead significantly improved lives; and*

*WHEREAS, individuals with autism often require a lifetime of specialized and community support services to ensure their health and safety and to support families' resilience as they manage the psychological and financial burdens autism presents; and*

*WHEREAS, to raise awareness and encourage acceptance, Judson Center is spearheading its Bring Autism to Light campaign, now in its sixth year, to educate parents, professionals and the general public about autism by lighting their campuses with blue lights throughout the month of April in addition to inviting participation from the community in this multi-faceted effort;*

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, Christopher Taylor, Mayor of Ann Arbor, Michigan, announce that in partnership with the Judson Center, do hereby declare April 2022 to be Autism Acceptance Month in the City of Ann Arbor. We encourage all community members to #BringAutismtoLight and raise awareness and encourage acceptance during this month.*

*I hereby set my hand and seal  
This 25<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2022*



*Christopher Taylor  
Mayor of the City of Ann Arbor*

