

# Proclamation



CITY OF NORTHAMPTON  
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

## World Autism Awareness Month April 2022

- WHEREAS,** autism spectrum disorder affects an estimated 1 in 44 children and 1 in 45 adults in the US and is a complex condition that affects each person differently, resulting in unique strengths and challenges; and
- WHEREAS,** autism can cause challenges with verbal and nonverbal communication, social interaction, and repetitive behaviors, and can affect anyone, regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, or socioeconomic background; and
- WHEREAS,** autism is often accompanied by medical conditions that impact quality of life; and
- WHEREAS,** a comprehensive, collaborative approach will help to advance research, providing a better understanding of the many forms of autism, strengthen advocacy efforts and ensure access to services and resources throughout the life span and across the spectrum; and
- WHEREAS,** early diagnosis and intervention tailored to individual needs can have lifelong benefits, easing the transition to adulthood and fostering greater independence; and
- WHEREAS,** each person and family affected by autism should have access to reliable information and supports; and
- WHEREAS,** autistic people should have opportunities to reach their full potential and the whole of society stands to benefit from this; and,
- WHEREAS,** Northampton, Massachusetts is honored to take part in the annual observance of **World Autism Awareness Month** to address the diverse needs of individuals with autism and their families;

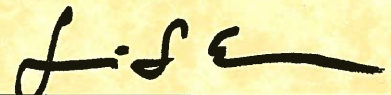
**NOW, THEREFORE, I,** Mayor Gina-Louise Sciarra, do hereby proclaim April 2022, to be

### World Autism Awareness Month

in Northampton to create a kinder, more inclusive world for people with autism spectrum disorder.

*IN WITNESS WHEREOF,* I have imprinted the Seal of the City of Northampton on this first day of April 2022.



  
Mayor Gina-Louise Sciarra