



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS autism affects an estimated 1 in 36 children and 1 in 45 adults and 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 age, 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 autism spectrum disorder while strengthening advocacy efforts and ensuring access to services and resources throughout the life span; 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, supports and opportunities to live up to their greatest potential; and,

WHEREAS the City of Broken Arrow is honored to take part in the annual observance of Autism Awareness & Acceptance Month to address the diverse needs of autistic individuals and their families.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mayor Debra Wimpee, do hereby proclaim

April 2025 as

AUTISM AWARENESS & ACCEPTANCE MONTH

In the City of Broken Arrow

to increase understanding and acceptance of Oklahomans with autism spectrum disorder.

**Debra Wimpee, Mayor
City of Broken Arrow, Oklahoma**