



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

PROCLAMATION

AUTISM ACCEPTANCE MONTH

April 2021

WHEREAS, autism can affect anyone regardless of race, religion, socio-economic status, or geography; and

WHEREAS, the prevalence of autism in the United States is 1 in 59 children; and

WHEREAS, autism affects more than 3 million people in the United States; and more than 55,000 children and adults with autism are receiving services in the commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, children and adults with autism are our family members, friends, neighbors, and co-workers; and

WHEREAS, each individual with autism carries a unique diagnosis across the spectrum and has distinctive skills and qualities such as exceptional focus and attention to detail; and

WHEREAS, individuals with autism benefit from specialized services and community support to ensure their health and safety and full participation in community life; and

WHEREAS, individuals with autism, families, professionals, and community members are supported through connections with others and the sharing of resources, including through access to ASERT initiatives such as the Statewide Resource Center, and #ASDNext; and

WHEREAS, the resilience of families and individuals with autism is strengthened through support; and

WHEREAS, we value what is important to people with autism and their families, who are striving to live everyday lives; and

WHEREAS, positive outcomes increase for individuals with autism when training is provided to professionals across all systems, including those in justice, healthcare, and emergency response settings; and

WHEREAS, the aims for Autism Acceptance Month are to recognize the diverse nature and abilities of people with autism and to encourage strong supports through family, friends, professionals and community that will allow a broader understanding and appreciation of those individuals.

THEREFORE, in recognition of Pennsylvanians diagnosed with autism, I, Tom Wolf, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, do hereby proclaim April 2021 as AUTISM ACCEPTANCE MONTH. I encourage all Pennsylvanians to provide their support in furthering autism awareness and acceptance.



GIVEN under my hand and the Seal of the Governor, at the City of Harrisburg, this twenty-second day of March two thousand twenty-one, the year of the commonwealth the two hundred forty-fifth.

Tom Wolf
TOM WOLF
Governor