

The Council of the City of Albuquerque

April 20, 2015

WHEREAS, autism is a pervasive developmental disorder affecting the social, communication and behavioral skills of those affected by it and is also a "spectrum condition" that affects individuals differently and to varying degrees; and

WHEREAS, the prevalence of autism among American children has nearly doubled to 1 in 68 since 2004; and

WHEREAS, people with autism spectrum disorders have unique talents and gifts, and deserve to be accepted for who they are and appreciated for what they contribute to our community; and

WHEREAS, increasing awareness of autism in our community can increase inclusion, acceptance and appreciation for the differences and the unique gifts people have to offer; and

WHEREAS, while there is no cure for autism, it is well-documented that if individuals with autism receive early intervention and support throughout their lives, they lead significantly improved lives; and

WHEREAS, the UNM Center for Development and Disability exists to help people with autism achieve their full potential and to help families with specialized support services as they manage the day-to-day challenges that autism can present, and the CDD accomplishes this through programs such as its Autism Spectrum Disorder Clinics, Camp Rising Sun, a Parent Home Training Program, Parent Support programs, and community and school-based services.

BE IT PROCLAIMED THAT THE COUNCIL, THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE, HEREBY proclaims April 2015 as NATIONAL AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH in the City of Albuquerque and urges all employees and residents to become better educated about autism and create a better community for individuals with autism.

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