

## RESOLUTION

### A RESOLUTION DECLARING APRIL 2025 AS AUTISM ACCEPTANCE MONTH IN THE CITY OF THORNTON, COLORADO.

WHEREAS, autism is a complex, developmental disorder that affects social and emotional behavior and communication. It is also known as a spectrum disorder, due to it manifesting differently in every person and with varying degrees of intensity; and

WHEREAS, Autism Awareness Month was founded in April of 1970 to promote autism awareness, inclusion, transitional opportunities, and self-determination for all, and to assure that each person with autism is provided the opportunity to achieve the highest possible quality of life; and

WHEREAS, Autism Awareness Month changed to Autism Acceptance Month in 2020 because, while awareness reflects the need to educate the public about autism, acceptance goes a step further to embrace the autistic community as they are, with all of their strengths and challenges; and

WHEREAS, early diagnosis, treatment, and instruction for students with autism are essential to ensure a better quality of life for individuals with autism; and

WHEREAS, one in 36 children in the United States have been diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder; and

WHEREAS, individuals living with autism spectrum disorder can achieve independence and live purposeful lives when afforded the support system and opportunities that each and everyone deserves; and

WHEREAS, the City of Thornton understands the importance of fostering acceptance in order to achieve equity in education, employment, housing, health care, and comprehensive long-term services and support; and

WHEREAS, the ultimate goal is to create a world where everyone in the autism community feels accepted and connected to the support they need when they need it.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF THORNTON, COLORADO, AS FOLLOWS:

That April 2025 is hereby declared Autism Acceptance Month in the City of Thornton, Colorado.

PASSED AND ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Thornton, Colorado, on \_\_\_\_\_, 2025.

CITY OF THORNTON, COLORADO

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Jan Kulmann, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Kristen N. Rosenbaum, City Clerk