



Proclamation



WHEREAS, autism is a severely incapacitating, lifelong developmental disability, resulting in significant impairment of an individual's ability to learn, develop healthy interactive behaviors, and understand verbal, nonverbal, and reciprocal communication; and,

WHEREAS, autism is the result of a neurological disorder affecting the functioning of the brain; and,

WHEREAS, autism is the third most common developmental disability, affecting more than 1,500,000 individuals nationwide and approximately 16,048 individuals in South Carolina; and,

WHEREAS, early diagnosis and the resulting appropriate education and intervention are vital to the future growth and development of persons with autism; and,

WHEREAS, the annual observance of Autism Awareness Month advocates for the rights, humane treatment, and appropriate education of all persons with autism, while educating families, professionals, and the general public to better understand this lifelong disability.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Carl M. (Mel) Pennington IV, Mayor of the City of Hartsville in the State of South Carolina do hereby proclaim April 2017, as

“AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH”
And April 12, 2017 as
“AUTISM AWARENESS DAY”

in Hartsville, South Carolina and encourage our citizens to work together to ensure that individuals with autism are accurately diagnosed and appropriately treated throughout their lives.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and cause to be affixed the seal of the City of Hartsville.

Carl M. (Mel) Pennington IV, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Sherron L. Skipper, City Clerk