



## PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, Autism Acceptance Month celebrates the talents, contributions, and diversity of the autism community and reinforces the equal rights and dignity of the millions of Americans on the autism spectrum; and

**WHEREAS**, autism is a complex neurodevelopmental condition where the brain processes social and sensory information differently. Each individual with autism carries a unique diagnosis across the spectrum and has distinctive skills, characteristics, and qualities; and

**WHEREAS**, 1 in 36 children and over 5.4 million adults have been diagnosed with autism in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, autism can affect anyone, regardless of race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, or other factors. Autism is a lifelong condition, and an autistic person's needs, strengths, and challenges may change over time; and

**WHEREAS**, too often, autistic people face misunderstanding, discrimination, and lack of access on all fronts – in education, employment, justice systems, and community life; and

**WHEREAS**, true inclusion is ensuring that people with autism have every opportunity to live life to the fullest by affirming their identities, dismantling stigmas, fostering respect, and embracing the unique strengths and boundless opportunities within the autism community; and

**WHEREAS**, through increased awareness, advocacy efforts, and inclusive practices, we can create a more supportive community that empowers individuals with autism to reach their full potential.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I**, Shannon Lukeman-Hiromasa, Mayor Pro Tem of the City of Northglenn, Colorado, do hereby proclaim April 2024 as

### **AUTISM ACCEPTANCE MONTH**

in the City of Northglenn and encourage all residents, businesses, schools, and community organizations to join in raising awareness, promoting acceptance, and supporting individuals with autism and their families while creating a more inclusive and compassionate community.

DATED, at Northglenn, Colorado, this 8<sup>th</sup> day of April 2024.

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SHANNON LUKEMAN-HIROMASA  
Mayor Pro Tem

