

# CITY OF SPOKANE



## PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, autism is the fastest growing of all childhood disabilities and the prevalence rate far exceeds the prevalence rates of diabetes, AIDS, childhood cancer, cystic fibrosis, cerebral palsy, muscular dystrophy or Down's Syndrome combined; and the real day-to-day challenges occur in our families, neighborhoods, schools and communities, the causes are undetermined, current treatments are not fully accessible and there is no known cure; and

**WHEREAS**, autism is a lifelong spectrum disorder occurring in 1 in every 36 children, which knows no racial, ethnic or socioeconomic boundaries and has an immense impact on essential human experiences, such as the ability to show and receive affection, to imagine a way to ask for help, to make a friend, to play, speak, understand, and most importantly, to belong; and

**WHEREAS**, for every person diagnosed with autism, hundreds are touched, and the impact of autism varies greatly from person to person challenging our community's response to each individual living with autism; to that end, Northwest Autism Center joins hands with Spokane's Autism Society of Washington, The Isaac Foundation and our other local community agencies, families, providers, educators, and all those "touched" in our communities to make a difference today:

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Nadine Woodward, Mayor of the City of Spokane, on behalf of the citizens of Spokane, do hereby proclaim April 2023 as

### AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH

in Spokane and encourage all citizens to recognize and join hands improving the quality of life of people with autism spectrum disorders.

I, Nadine Woodward, Mayor of Spokane, do hereunto set my hand and cause the seal of the City of Spokane to be affixed this 24<sup>th</sup> day of April 2023.

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "Nadine Woodward".

Nadine Woodward  
Mayor

