



# The City of Minneapolis

## A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR & CITY COUNCIL

By Warsame, Frey, Reich, Gordon, B. Johnson, Yang,  
Goodman, Glidden, Cano, Bender, Quincy, A. Johnson, and Palmisano

### Declaring April as Autism Awareness Month

- WHEREAS: Autism and disorders on the autism spectrum reflect a wide range of disabilities and symptoms affecting more than one million Americans; and
- WHEREAS: Autism affects individuals from all backgrounds; and
- WHEREAS: According to the Centers for Disease Control and Protection, one out of every 88 children born in the United States has autism or an autism spectrum disorder; and
- WHEREAS: Autism manifests itself uniquely in each individual and is characterized by communication difficulties, social interaction problems, and the need for sameness or repetition in behavior; and
- WHEREAS: According to the University of Minnesota study, one out of every 32 Americans of Somali decent born in the twin cities has autism; and
- WHEREAS: Somali Parents Autism Network (SPAN) is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit Community organization organized to support Somali parents of children with autism (ASD); and
- WHEREAS: Significant improvement is often possible if an individual with autism receives early diagnosis and treatment; and
- WHEREAS: The Somali Parents Autism Network works to empower Somali families of children with autism in Minnesota, via outreach, education, and collaboration, for the purpose of connecting them with resources and services; and
- WHEREAS: The city of Minneapolis is currently partnering with Somali Parent Autism Network to inform the community and the general public about autism, stress the importance of early diagnosis and early intervention, and celebrate the unique talents and qualities of individuals with autism.

### NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MINNEAPOLIS CITY COUNCIL:

That the Minneapolis City Council does hereby designate the month of April as “Autism Awareness Month,” to better inform the public the nature of autism, to encourage early treatment and diagnosis, and to celebrate the unique talents and qualities of individuals with autism.

Passed by the City Council  
Fifteenth Day of April A.D. 2016

\_\_\_\_\_  
Barbara A. Johnson, *President of Council*

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Hodges, *Mayor* Betsy

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Casey Joe Carl, *City Clerk*