



## PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, autism spectrum disorder affects an estimated 1 in 54 U.S. children and 1 in 45 U.S. adults and is a complex condition that affects each person differently, resulting in unique strengths and challenges; and

WHEREAS, autism can cause challenges with verbal and nonverbal communication, social interaction, and repetitive behaviors, and can affect anyone, regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, or socioeconomic background; and

WHEREAS, a comprehensive, collaborative approach will help to advance research, providing a better understanding of the many forms of autism, while strengthening advocacy efforts and ensuring access to services and resources throughout the life span; and

WHEREAS, The City of Key West is honored to take part in the annual observance of World Autism Month to address the diverse needs of individuals with autism and their families; and

WHEREAS, autistic people should have opportunities to reach their greatest potential and the whole of society stands to benefit from this;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Teri Johnston, Mayor of the City of Key West do hereby proclaim  
April 2021 as

### **“WORLD AUTISM MONTH”**

in the “Southernmost City of the Continental United States” to create a kinder, more inclusive world for people with autism spectrum disorder.

WITNESS my hand and seal of the City of Key West, Florida, this 13<sup>th</sup> day of April 2021.

---

Teri Johnston  
Mayor