



A Proclamation

WHEREAS, The Office of the County Executive for Prince George's County, Maryland, wishes to recognize the month of April as Autism Awareness Month; and

WHEREAS, autism is the result of a neurological disorder that affects the normal functioning of the human brain that can affect anyone, regardless of race, ethnicity, gender or socioeconomic background; and

WHEREAS, as more health professionals become proficient in diagnosing autism, more children are being diagnosed, resulting in rates as high as 1-in-54 children diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) in the United States. Boys are four times more likely than girls to have ASD; and

WHEREAS, Autism FYI Organization, an organization dedicated to promoting a safe environment, employment opportunities, and independence of those with ASD, provides a safety program offering easily identifiable products for quick identification by emergency personnel, a hotline for accessing emergency contacts and medical information, and training. Autism FYI advocates for individuals with autism and their families, while promoting awareness of autism worldwide; and

WHEREAS, individuals with autism often require a lifetime of specialized and community support services to ensure their health and safety and to support families' resilience as they manage the psychological and financial burdens autism can present; and

WHEREAS, in light of the growing impact of Autism Spectrum Disorder and the need for greater awareness, Autism FYI holds their "Light It Up Blue!" campaign on World Autism Awareness Day, designed to increase awareness about autism by asking participating organizations to turn their lights blue.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ANGELA ALSOBROOKS, COUNTY EXECUTIVE FOR PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim the month of April 2021 as Autism Awareness Month, and April 2, 2021 as World Autism Awareness Day in Prince George's County. **FURTHER**, I call upon the citizens and residents of this great County to wear blue for one day this month to help promote, recognize, support and appreciate the contributions provided by individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder in our County and State.


COUNTY EXECUTIVE

