



*"The Peak of Good Living"*

TOWN OF APEX  
NORTH CAROLINA

## *Proclamation*

### Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month 2023

*from the Office of the Mayor*

WHEREAS, Developmental disabilities are a diverse group of chronic conditions that are caused by mental or physical impairments that arise before adulthood; and

WHEREAS, These conditions are likely to limit an individual's life in 3 or more of the following ways: self-care, receptive and expressive language, learning, mobility, self-direction, capacity for independent living, and economic self-sufficiency; and

WHEREAS, The "problem" with developmental disabilities is not the medical condition of the individual; rather, the problem is the fact that society does not completely support, include, welcome, and understand those around us with developmental disabilities; and

WHEREAS, The experience of disability is a natural part of life and a valuable component of our rich diversity, and individuals with developmental disabilities are an important and cherished part of our community; and

WHEREAS, The most effective way to increase awareness about developmental disabilities is an openness to learn and a recognition of the barriers that often prevent individuals with developmental disabilities from enjoying complete acceptance and inclusion, and;

WHEREAS, Policies must be developed that enhance accessibility and equity for those with developmental disabilities, and that educate the public regarding the challenges those individuals face,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jacques K. Gilbert, Mayor of Apex, North Carolina, do hereby proclaim, The Month of March 2023, Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month in the Town of Apex, and encourage residents to join me in calling for systemic changes that will alleviate struggles in the lives of those with developmental disabilities, and in opening our hearts so that we can make a more welcoming and caring Apex for all.

I hereby set my hand and have caused the Seal of the Town of Apex,  
North Carolina, to be affixed this the 14th day of March 2023

Jacques Gilbert, Mayor