

*EHLERS-DANLOS SYNDROMES AND HYPERMOBILITY SPECTRUM DISORDERS AWARENESS MONTH*

*MAY 2023*

*PROCLAMATION*

*WHEREAS, Ehlers-Danlos syndromes (EDS) are a group of 13 heritable connective tissue disorders that together affect 1 in 5,000 people. Each type of EDS has its own set of symptoms, but some features are seen across all types of EDS, including joint hypermobility, skin hyperextensibility, and tissue fragility.*

*WHEREAS, Hypermobility spectrum disorders (HSD) are connective tissue disorders that cause joint hypermobility, instability, injury, and pain. Other symptoms, such as fatigue, headaches, GI problems, and autonomic dysfunction are also often seen as part of HSD.*

*WHEREAS, There is no cure for any type of EDS or HSD. The conditions are managed by addressing a person's symptoms. EDS and HSD can cause a variety of symptoms in many different areas of the body, so people with these conditions often require multiple providers in different specialties to manage their care.*

*WHEREAS, Access to professionals who are knowledgeable about EDS and HSD is limited in Bristol. Lack of awareness about EDS and HSD in Bristol and across the world stands in the way of the diagnosis, management, and research of these conditions.*

*WHEREAS, Awareness about EDS and HSD by both medical professionals and the general public can help improve the lives of people living with EDS and HSD in Bristol.*

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the town of Bristol, Rhode Island hereby declares May 2023 as Ehlers-Danlos Syndromes and Hypermobility Spectrum Disorders Awareness Month.*

*THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to The Ehlers-Danlos Society.  
Adopted by Town Administrator Steven Contente on the seventeenth day of April, 2023.*

*Steven Contente, Town Administrator*

2023 APR 17 PM 3:55