



# **P**roclamation

## **LUPUS AWARENESS DAY- MAY 16 PROCLAMATION 2026-06**

**Whereas**, More than five million people worldwide suffer from the devastating effects of lupus, and each year another 100,000 men, women and children will be diagnosed with this disease; and it is 2-3 times more prevalent among people of color, including African-Americans, Hispanics, Asians, and Native-Americans; and

**Whereas**, Lupus research shows that close to two million Americans have been diagnosed with lupus, which affects one out of every 185 people and strikes adult women about nine out of ten times more than adult men; and

**Whereas**, Lupus is an unpredictable and misunderstood chronic autoimmune disease that causes inflammation of various parts of the body particularly the skin, heart, joints, kidneys, and in some cases death; and

**Whereas**, Lupus impacts more than just the life of the patient, it affects the patient's family, friends, coworkers, employers and community; and

**Whereas**, People with lupus need access to medical specialists and high-quality multidisciplinary care, including emotional, psychological and social care; and

**Whereas**, Many physicians worldwide are unaware of symptoms and health effects of lupus, causing people with lupus to suffer for many years before they obtain a correct diagnosis and medical treatment; and

**Whereas**, Medical research efforts into lupus and the discovery of safer, more effective treatments for lupus patients are under-funded in comparison with diseases of comparable magnitude and severity; now

**Whereas**, Increased public awareness, early diagnosis and proper treatment are critical to the improvements of the quality of life and are the key to survival rate of lupus sufferers and winning the battle against lupus; and

**Whereas**, Monica Ellis, founder of Lupus Matters Corporation, is promoting awareness, educating communities, and supporting families affected by lupus; now

**Therefore, I, James Kelly, Mayor of the City of Dallas, Georgia, do hereby proclaim May 16, 2026, as LUPUS AWARENESS DAY in Dallas, Georgia. Dallas recognizes the importance of health advocacy and community education, and acknowledges those who transform personal adversity into public service, and encourages all citizens to support lupus awareness efforts and to honor the strength and resilience of those living with this chronic illness. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this First Day of June, in the year of our Lord Two Thousand Twenty-Six, and in the City of Dallas, Georgia.**

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**Mayor L. James Kelly**