

For Recording Stamp Only

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF DESCHUTES COUNTY, OREGON

PROCLAMATION

Declaring May 14, 2022 as Apraxia Awareness Day

Whereas, May 14th marks Apraxia Awareness Day during which awareness will be raised throughout Deschutes County about Childhood Apraxia of Speech, an extremely challenging speech disorder in children.

Whereas, Childhood Apraxia of Speech (CAS) causes children to have significant difficulty learning to speak and is among the most severe speech deficits in children.

Whereas, the act of learning to speak comes effortlessly to most children, those with apraxia endure an incredible and lengthy struggle.

Whereas, without appropriate speech therapy intervention, children with apraxia are placed at a high risk for secondary impacts in reading, writing, spelling, and other school related skills.

Whereas, that such primary and secondary impacts diminish future independence and employment opportunities if not resolved or improved.

Whereas, most children with Apraxia of Speech will learn to communicate with their very own voice only if they receive early intervention, appropriate, intensive, and frequent speech therapy.

Whereas, it is imperative there be greater public awareness about Childhood Apraxia of Speech in Deschutes County among community members, physicians, education professionals, policy makers, and elected officials.

Whereas, funders such as insurance providers, schools, and policy makers are encouraged to recognize the critical need to provide adequate speech therapy and other services so that the impact of the disorder is minimized and so that thousands of affected children can grow into productive, contributing adult citizens.

Whereas, our highest respect goes to these children, as well as their families for their effort, determination, and resilience in the face of such obstacles.

Let it be resolved, that May 14th is “Apraxia Awareness Day” and citizens of Deschutes County and surrounding areas are encouraged to work within their communities to increase awareness and understanding of Childhood Apraxia of Speech.

Dated this ____ day of _____ 2022 by the Deschutes County Board of Commissioners.

Patti Adair, Chair

Anthony DeBone, Vice Chair

ATTEST:

Recording Secretary

Phil Chang, Commissioner