



PROCLAMATION SEPTEMBER 2023 - CHILDHOOD CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, childhood cancer is the leading cause of death by disease in children; and

WHEREAS, 1 in 285 children in the United States will be diagnosed by their 20th birthday; and

WHEREAS, there are 43 children per day, or 15,780 children annually, that are diagnosed with cancer as well as approximately 40,000 children on active treatment at any given time; and

WHEREAS, the average age of diagnosis is 6 years old, compared to 66 years for adults' diagnosis and 80% of childhood cancer patients are diagnosed late and with metastatic disease; and

WHEREAS, on average there has been a 0.6 percent increase in incidence per year since the mid 1970s, resulting in an overall incidence increase of 24 percent over the last 40 years; and

WHEREAS, two-thirds of childhood cancer patients will have chronic health conditions as a result of their treatment toxicity, with one quarter being classified as severe to life-threatening; and

WHEREAS, approximately one half of childhood cancer families rate the associated financial toxicity due to out-of-pocket expenses as considerable to severe; and

WHEREAS, in the last 20 years, only four new drugs have been approved by the FDA to specifically treat childhood cancer; and

WHEREAS, researchers and healthcare professionals work diligently dedicating their expertise to treat and cure children with cancer; and

WHEREAS, too many children are affected by this deadly disease and more must be done to raise awareness and find a cure;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Mayor and City Council of the City of Lake Forest Park, do hereby proclaim September 2023 as:

Childhood Cancer Awareness Month

in the city of Lake Forest Park and urge all residents to join in encouraging young people fighting cancer, honoring young people who have lost their lives to childhood cancer, and expressing gratitude to the doctors and nurses who provide special care to patients and families affected by childhood cancer.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, signed this 10th day of August, 2023.

Jeff Johnson, Mayor