



City of Mercer Island, Washington *Proclamation*

WHEREAS, in the United States, 1 in 44 children are diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder, totaling over 7 million young people and adults. Mercer Island families face challenges associated with family members who are on the autism spectrum.

People with autism are able to achieve independence and live purposeful lives when afforded the support system and opportunities that each and every one of us deserves.

With proper education, training and community living options, individuals with autism can lead distinguished, productive lives in their communities and strive to reach their fullest potential.

Our community supports an increased awareness of this challenging disability.

This month honors self-advocates, family members, caregivers, professionals, and all who work every day to create more opportunities for those with autism within the Mercer Island community.

Together, we can spread awareness, foster acceptance, and empower everyone in the autism community with the resources needed to live fully.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Salim Nice, Mayor of the City of Mercer Island, do hereby proclaim APRIL 2024 as

AUTISM ACCEPTANCE MONTH

APPROVED, this 2nd day of APRIL 2024

Mayor Salim Nice



Proclamation No. 324