



City of Mercer Island, Washington

Proclamation

WHEREAS, cancer is the leading cause of death by disease among children ages 1 to 14 in the United States, with approximately 16,000 children diagnosed every year, affecting not only the young patients but also their families, friends, and communities. Despite significant advancements in medical research, childhood cancer remains a critical public health issue, with many forms of pediatric cancer still lacking effective treatment options, leading to long-term health consequences and a need for ongoing medical care for survivors.

Only 4% of federal government cancer research funding is dedicated specifically to childhood cancers, highlighting a pressing need for increased awareness and support for research initiatives focused on pediatric oncology.

September is recognized nationally as Childhood Cancer Awareness Month, a time to honor the young lives both on Mercer Island and across the county affected by the dozens of different diseases comprising childhood cancer, to remember those who have lost their battle, and to support the families and medical professionals who tirelessly fight to improve the prognosis for all children with cancer.

The color gold symbolizes the precious nature of children and the resiliency of childhood cancer warriors. Mercer Island can "Go Gold" in September to raise awareness and support for childhood cancer research, treatment, and prevention, by wearing gold, displaying gold ribbons, and participating in events aimed at promoting understanding and solidarity.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, David Rosenbaum, Mayor of the City of Mercer Island, do hereby proclaim September 2026 as

CHILDHOOD CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

APPROVED, this 1st day of September 2026.

Mayor Salim Nice

Proclamation No. 396



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childhood cancer
awareness month