## NERCER JOE AND SHINGTON

## **City of Mercer Island, Washington**

## Proclamation

WHEREAS Mercer Island is a caring community known as a wonderful place to live and raise a family; and

WHEREAS a number of families face challenges associated with raising children who are on the autism spectrum; and

WHEREAS Autism is one of the fastest growing developmental disabilities in the world affecting approximately 1 in 54 children in the U.S. including those within our Mercer Island community; and

WHEREAS it is known that 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; and

WHEREAS our community supports an increased awareness of this challenging disability; and

WHEREAS our Police Department personnel are wearing Autism Awareness patches this month in support of Autism Awareness month,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mayor Benson Wong, do hereby proclaim April 2021 as

## **AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH**

in Mercer Island, and I encourage all residents to join me our continuing commitment to be a supportive community for those families dealing with the challenge of raising children who are on the Autism spectrum, and to extend kindness and compassion to those who struggle with disabilities.

APPROVED, this 6th day of April 20:
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Benson Wong, Mayor	_