

PROCLAMATION



City and County of Denver

Proclamation No. 15-0589 Recognizing September 2015 as Childhood Cancer Awareness Month

WHEREAS, a diagnosis of cancer at any age is disruptive to the lives of patients and their families; worldwide, it is estimated that between 160,000 and 250,000 children are diagnosed with cancer each year and approximately 90,000 will die from their illness; in the United States alone cancer kills more children under the age of 14 than any other disease; and

WHEREAS, statistically, each school day 86 children are diagnosed with cancer and one in every 285 American children develop cancer before the age of 20; and

WHEREAS, there has been key breakthroughs in cases of childhood acute leukemias and pediatric cancer care; children continue to receive chemotherapy drugs and treatment developed in prior decades and specifically only three new drugs have been approved by the Federal Drug Administration to treat child cancer in the last two decades; treatment is intense and generally includes surgery, radiation, and chemotherapy; and

WHEREAS, although there has been tens of millions of funding being allocated towards clinical trial research, there has been very little improvement in the overall survival rate of childhood cancer in the last decade; there are currently more than 380,000 childhood cancer survivors in the United States; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative that funding and research be continued so that children with cancer could benefit from additional cancer therapies and drugs that lead to a greater number of cures; and

WHEREAS, this month, we pay tribute to the families, friends, health care professionals, and communities who lend their strength to children fighting childhood cancer and may their courage and experience move others to help pave the way for new cures and a brighter future for our children.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER:

Section 1. That the Denver City Council recognizes the month of September as Childhood Cancer Awareness Month and encourages the City and County of Denver residents to affirm their commitment to fighting childhood cancer by donating time or funding into appropriate programs and activities to support the cause.

Section 2. That the Clerk of the City and County of Denver shall attest and affix the seal of the City and County of Denver to this proclamation and that copies be transmitted to Crisandra Green, American Childhood Cancer Organization; Hope 4 Heroes; and the Contreras Family.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL August 31, 2015

PRESIDENT