

# PROCLAMATION



City and County of Denver

## **Proclamation No. 22-1251 Recognizing Spina Bifida Awareness Month, October 2022**

**WHEREAS**, according to the Center for Disease Control, Spina Bifida is the most common permanently disabling birth defect, occurring when the spine and spinal cord do not form properly within the first 30 days of a pregnancy; and

**WHEREAS**, the Denver-based Spina Bifida Association of Colorado is the only spina bifida resource available in the state of Colorado and surrounding states who give support to the approximately 1,700 Coloradans living with Spina Bifida, a permanently disabling birth defect; and

**WHEREAS**, while over 1,600 babies are born with Spina Bifida every year in the United States, no two are affected in the same way; and

**WHEREAS**, the words spina bifida literally mean “split spine”; and it is characterized by the incomplete development of the brain, spinal cord, and/or meninges, the protective covering around the brain and spinal cord, and may be caused by lack of folic acid during pregnancy; and

**WHEREAS**, individuals living with Spina Bifida have multiple medical needs, including walking and mobility issues from paralysis, as well as many other physical issues that may include learning disabilities; and

**WHEREAS**, with the care and support of their families, friends and community, and sufficient medical and financial resources, children and adults with Spina Bifida can lead active successful lives; and

**WHEREAS**, through public awareness, the great state of Colorado seeks to support individuals and families living with Spina Bifida continuing throughout their lifetime and to recognize these individuals as essential Colorado citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, this October 2022, Colorado joins other states in the nation in supporting those with Spina Bifida and shares the worthy goals of this monthlong observance, and likewise supports the work of public and private entities that strive to make our communities accommodating and supportive to those with Spina Bifida; and

**WHEREAS**, we support and encourage all our fellow citizens to attend the upcoming Walk & Roll for Spina Bifida Fundraising event October 8, 2022 at Red-Tailed Hawk Accessible Park in neighboring Aurora, CO.

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

**Section 1.** That the Council of the City and County of Denver recognizes October 2022 as Spina Bifida Awareness Month.

**Section 2.** That the Clerk of the City and County of Denver shall affix the seal of the City and County of Denver to this proclamation and that a copy be transmitted to the Spina Bifida Association of Colorado.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL October 3, 2022

\_\_\_\_\_ PRESIDENT