

PROCLAMATION



City and County of Denver

Proclamation No. 22-1326 Recognizing International Stuttering Awareness Day, October 22, 2022

WHEREAS, across the country the 22nd of October is recognized as International Stuttering Awareness Day; and

WHEREAS, stuttering is a communication difference characterized by repetition of sounds, syllables, or words, prolongation of sounds, and interruptions in speech; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated about 1% of the world's population stutters and roughly 3 million Americans stutter; and

WHEREAS, organizations dedicated to bringing hope and empowerment to children and adults who stutter through support, education, and advocacy, have locations in Denver; and

WHEREAS, International Stuttering (Stammering) Awareness Day is an annual celebration that began on October 22, 1998 as first held in the United Kingdom and Ireland with the intention to raise public awareness of the circumstances faced by millions of people who stutter; and

WHEREAS, many stutterers suffer frustration and embarrassment that can lead to harmful emotional stress; and

WHEREAS, stuttering is a form of verbal diversity and should be recognized as simply a different way of speaking; and

WHEREAS, when stuttering continues into adulthood, a person may have difficulty communicating with other people and stuttering may affect a person's quality of life, interpersonal relationship, job opportunities, and professional growth; and

WHEREAS, during International Stuttering Awareness Day, Lebsack Speech Therapy and the community of people who stutter and allies of people who stutter in Denver, Colorado, seek to raise awareness about communication difference and the many ways that people with the daily challenges of stuttering can be supported; and

WHEREAS, by recognizing these challenges, we can draw attention to the needs, shine a light on these often invisible disabilities, and help avoid the negative consequences of misunderstanding stuttering; and

WHEREAS, Denver's City Council will work to support the stuttering community at the local, regional and state level and will encourage residents of Denver to participate in International Stuttering Awareness Day activities.

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 proclaims October 22, 2022 as International Stuttering Awareness Day.

Section 2. That the Secretary of Council shall affix the seal of the City and County of Denver to this proclamation and that a copy be transmitted to MySpeech.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL October 17, 2022

_____ PRESIDENT