

# City of South Gate



From the Honorable  
**Mayor**

## PROCLAMATION

Declaring the month of April 2021 as

### Autism Awareness Month

*WHEREAS,* since 1970, the month of April has been designated to spread awareness about the Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) which is a complex developmental disability that affects everyone differently and usually appears by age two or three;

*WHEREAS,* ASD refers to a broad range of conditions characterized by challenges with social, emotional, communication and motor skills, repetitive behaviors, speech, nonverbal communication, sensory sensitivities, and difficulty with making eye contact;

*WHEREAS,* the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention report that autism affects an estimated 1 in 54 children in the United States;

*WHEREAS,* there is not only one type of autism but many that are influenced by a combination of genetic and environmental factors;

*WHEREAS,* a person with autism can have a distinct set of strengths and challenges in which they learn, think and problem-solve, people with ASD may require significant assistance in their daily lives, while others may require less and in some cases, live entirely independently without assistance;

*WHEREAS,* while there are several factors that may develop autism, it is often accompanied by medical issues such as gastrointestinal (GI) disorders, seizures or sleep disorders, as well as mental health challenges such as anxiety, depression and attention issues; and

*WHEREAS,* currently there is no cure for autism, research reveals that high quality early intervention can improve learning, communication and social skills, as well as underlying brain developments.

*NOW, THEREFORE,* be it proclaimed on this 13<sup>th</sup> day of April 2021, that **I, Maria Davila, Mayor of the City of South Gate,** on behalf of the City Council and citizens, do hereby proclaim the month of April 2021 as Autism Awareness Month, and encourage residents to become aware of autism indicators, seek early intervention and support those living with autism.

/s/

Mayor Maria Davila

