

PROCLAMATION
CITY OF ONEIDA, NEW YORK
National Autism Awareness Day

WHEREAS, autism spectrum disorder (ASD) is a complex developmental condition that affects an estimated 1 in 36 children in the United States, as well as countless adults, impacting communication, behavior, and social interactions; and

WHEREAS, individuals with autism are valuable members of our community, contributing their unique talents, perspectives, and strengths to our schools, workplaces, and society; and

WHEREAS, National Autism Awareness Day, recognized annually on April 2nd, provides an opportunity to increase understanding and acceptance of autism, promote early diagnosis and intervention, and support individuals and families affected by autism; and

WHEREAS, the City of Oneida is committed to fostering an inclusive community where individuals with autism are respected, supported, and empowered to reach their full potential; and

WHEREAS, local organizations, educators, healthcare professionals, and advocates in Oneida work tirelessly to provide essential resources, services, and support for those living with autism and their families; and

WHEREAS, by raising awareness and promoting acceptance, we can break down barriers, celebrate neurodiversity, and create a more inclusive and supportive society for all.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, **Rick Rossi** Mayor of the City of Oneida, do hereby proclaim April 2, 2025, as **National Autism Awareness Day** in the City of Oneida and encourage all residents, businesses, and organizations to participate in activities and initiatives that promote understanding, acceptance, and support for individuals with autism and their families.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Oneida to be affixed this **1st** of **April** 2025.

Rick Rossi, Mayor, City of Oneida