

# PROCLAMATION

## **AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH** **Month of April 2024**

**WHEREAS**, autism spectrum disorders are developmental disabilities that can cause social, communication, and behavioral challenges for affected children and adults; and

**WHEREAS**, citizens with autism spectrum disorder are cherished members of our community who have varying needs and challenges; and

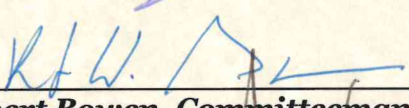
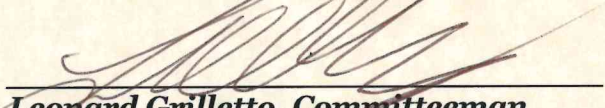
**WHEREAS**, The New Jersey Center for Outreach and Services for the Autism Community (COSAC), and Autism Speaks are spearheading an awareness effort to educate parents, professionals, and the general public about autism and its effects; and

**WHEREAS**, current research indicates that autism spectrum disorders are present at birth and last throughout a person's life, although symptoms can improve over time; and

**WHEREAS**, although a cure for autism spectrum disorder has not been found; accurate, early identification and diagnosis, in addition to appropriate education and intervention, can help persons with autism spectrum disorder reach their full potential; and

**WHEREAS**, autism spectrum disorder has wide-ranging implications for the entire family of the diagnosed individual, and early diagnosis, education, and therapies are needed to reduce the negative effects of autism and improve the quality of life for the individual, family, and community;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Mayor and Township Committee of the Township of Plumsted, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, do hereby proclaim the month of April 2024 as "Autism Awareness Month" and encourages all residents to educate themselves about autism spectrum disorders and support autism spectrum disorder education and research through the display of blue lights on homes and businesses throughout the community for the month of April, 2024.

  
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**Dominick Cuzzo, Mayor**  
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**Herbert Marinari, Deputy Mayor**  
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**Robert Bowen, Committeeman**  
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**Leonard Grilletto, Committeeman**  
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**Michael Hammerstone, Committeeman**