

P R O C L A M A T I O N

***WHEREAS**, the autism spectrum is a neurological difference which can cause significant social, communication and behavioral challenges; and*

***WHEREAS**, early identification and the resulting appropriate education and intervention are vital to the future growth and development of persons living with conditions emanating from this complex developmental condition; and*

***WHEREAS**, the United Nations has designated April 2 as World Autism Acceptance Day; and*

***WHEREAS**, the annual observance of Autism Acceptance Month in the United States promotes the rights and education of all autistic individuals, while helping families, professionals and the general public to understand their unique challenges.*

***NOW, THEREFORE, I, ALYIA GASKINS**, Mayor of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, and on behalf of the Alexandria City Council, do hereby proclaim the month of April 2025 to be:*

“AUTISM ACCEPTANCE MONTH”

Throughout the City, and I call this observance to the attention of all our citizens; and I encourage all Alexandrians to work together to ensure that autistic individuals enjoy equal access to vital programs and services and are also able to share the quality of life we seek for all residents.

***IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Alexandria to be affixed this 26th day of April 2025.*

MAYOR ALYIA GASKINS
*On behalf of the City Council
of Alexandria, Virginia*

ATTEST:

Gloria A. Sitton, CMC City Clerk