



PROCLAMATION

The Board of Supervisors for the County of El Dorado
Proclaim April, 2010

“Autism Awareness Month”

WHEREAS, autism is a developmental disorder that is typically diagnosed during the first three years of life, robbing individuals of their ability to communicate and interact with others; and,

WHEREAS, autism affects a recently estimated 1 in every 110 children in the United States, is over four times more likely to occur in boys than girls, affecting one in 70 boys while only one in 315 girls, involves all ethnicities and has had an increase in prevalence of 57 percent from 2002 to 2006 with an estimated 1 to 1.5 million Americans who now live with an autism spectrum disorder; and,

WHEREAS, it costs approximately \$80,000 per year to treat an individual with autism in a medical center specializing in developmental disabilities and the cost of special education programs for school-aged children with autism is often more than \$30,000 per individual per year with costs over a lifespan of 3.2 million dollars per person; and,

WHEREAS, the cost nationally of caring for persons affected by autism is estimated at upwards of \$90,000,000,000 per year while in 10 years, the annual cost will be \$200-400 billion; and,

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have called autism a national public health crisis whose cause and cure remain unknown despite the fact that autism is one of the most common developmental disorders and many professionals in the medical and educational fields are still unaware of the best methods to diagnose and treat this pervasive disorder; and,

WHEREAS, designating April, 2010, as “Autism Awareness Month” in the County of El Dorado will aid in the effort to increase public awareness of the need to support individuals with autism and their families and medical professionals assisting in their care.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, the Board of Supervisors for the County of El Dorado does herewith declare April, 2010, as “Autism Awareness Month”.

*Attest: Suzanne Allen de Sanchez,
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors*

Ayes: Knight, Nutting, Sweeney, Briggs, Santiago

Deputy Clerk of the Board

Date: April 6, 2010

Supervisor Norma Santiago, Chair