

**WHEREAS,** on February 26, 1987, President Ronald Reagan officially proclaimed March as National Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month, calling for understanding, encouragement, and opportunities to help persons with disabilities lead productive and fulfilling lives; and

**WHEREAS,** we recognize the many accomplishments and contributions of people with a developmental disability who are of all racial, ethnic, educational, social, and economic backgrounds and are all valued members of society; and

**WHEREAS**, we acknowledge there are systemic barriers that reduce the likelihood of those with disabilities enjoying equitable experiences and living independent, productive lives within their communities; and

**WHEREAS**, strive to increase awareness and openness to learn to change the attitudes and beliefs about the abilities of individuals; and

**WHEREAS**, we recognize that equitable experiences and full inclusion is a matter of social justice and a shared responsibility of everyone to reject segregated services and create welcoming and supporting environments, policies, and systems for all.

**NOW THEREFORE,** we, the City Council of the City of Tulare, do hereby proclaim the month of March 2023 as

## **Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month**

in the City of Tulare and promote both the expectations and opportunities for individuals with developmental disabilities to participate fully in our community.

Dated this 7<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2023.

Jury a. Sayre Terry A. Sayre, Mayor

Patrick Isherwood, Vice Mayor

Jose Sigala, Councilmember

Stephen C. Harrell, Councilmember

Dennis A. Mederos, Councilmember