

WHEREAS, World Polio Day is held on October 24 in celebration of the birth of Jonas Salk, the American researcher who developed the first polio vaccine in 1955; and

WHEREAS, in 1985, Rotary launched PolioPlus and in 1988 helped establish the Global Polio Eradication Initiative, which today includes the World Health Organization, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, UNICEF, and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, and Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, to immunize the children of the world against polio; and

WHEREAS, polio cases have dropped by 99.9 percent since 1988 and the world stands on the threshold of eradicating the disease; and

WHEREAS, to date, Rotary has contributed more than \$2.2 billion and countless volunteer hours to protecting nearly 3 billion children in 122 countries and is working to raise an additional \$50 million per year, which would be leveraged for maximum impact by an additional \$100 million annually from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation; and

WHEREAS, these efforts are providing much-needed operational support, medical staff, laboratory equipment, and educational materials for health workers and parents; and

WHEREAS, in addition, Rotary has played a major role in decisions by donor governments to contribute more than \$10 billion to the effort; and

WHEREAS, there are over 1.2 million Rotary members in 36,000 clubs throughout the world that sponsor service projects to address such critical issues as poverty, disease, hunger, illiteracy, and the environment in their local communities and abroad; and

WHEREAS, members of Rotary Clubs throughout the world continue to contribute their time and their resources to support PolioPlus and the Global Polio Eradication Initiative, and their efforts are providing much needed operational support, medical personnel, laboratory equipment, and educational materials for health works and parents.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** we, the City Council of the City of Tulare, do hereby proclaim October 24, 2023 as

## World Polio Day

in the City of Tulare and encourage all citizens to join in the fight for a polio-free world.

Dated this 17<sup>th</sup> day of October 2023.



Jury a. Sayre Terry A. Sayre, Mayor Patrick Isherwood, Vice Mayor

Jose Sigala, Councilmember Stephen C. Hamil

Dennis A. Mederos Dennis A. Mederos, Councilmember