



Proclamation

- WHEREAS,** childhood cancer is the leading cause of death by disease in children, 1 in 285 children in the United States will be diagnosed by their 20th birthday and;
- WHEREAS,** 43 children per day or 15,780 children are diagnosed with cancer annually in the U.S. the average age of diagnosis is 6 years old, compared to 66 years for adults' cancer diagnosis and;
- WHEREAS,** there are approximately 40,000 children on active treatment at any given time, 80% of childhood cancer patients are diagnosed late and with metastatic disease and;
- WHEREAS,** on average there's been a 0.6 percent increase in incidence per year since the mid 1970's resulting in an overall incidence increase of 24 percent over the last 40 years, and;
- WHEREAS,** two-thirds of childhood cancer patients will have chronic health conditions as a result of their treatment toxicity, with one quarter being classified as severe to life-threatening, and;
- WHEREAS,** the National Cancer Institute recognizes the unique research needs of childhood cancer and the associated need for increased funding to carry this out, hundreds of non-profit organizations at the local and national level including the American Childhood Cancer Organization are helping children with cancer and their families cope through educational, emotional and financial support, and;
- WHEREAS,** too many children are affected by this deadly disease and more must be done to raise awareness and find a cure.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MIKE MURPHY, Mayor of the City of Merced, do hereby proclaim the September as Childhood Cancer Awareness Month, and encourage all residents support this cause that so deeply impacts families in every community across our country.

Signed this 8th day of September, 2020.

Mike Murphy, Mayor of Merced