

# City of El Paso de Robles

## PROCLAMATION

### Autism Awareness Month

April 2012

**WHEREAS**, Autism is a complex neurobiological disorder that typically lasts throughout a person's lifetime. It is part of a group of disorders known as autism spectrum disorders (ASDs); and

**WHEREAS**, Autism affects all persons regardless of race, religion, socio-economic status or geography; and

**WHEREAS**, The incidence of autism in San Luis Obispo County reflects the national rate of 1 in 110, with rates appearing to have increased similarly around the globe; and

**WHEREAS**, A child is diagnosed with autism every 20 minutes; and

**WHEREAS**, ASDs are the fastest growing serious developmental disability, making these disorders more common than pediatric cancer, diabetes, and AIDS combined; and

**WHEREAS**, Many are not adequately informed about ASDs and the value and importance of early identification, assessment, and treatment of these disorders; and

**WHEREAS**, Individuals with ASDs and their families face tremendous and overwhelming challenges in accessing and navigating the complex programs and services for these disorders; and

**WHEREAS**, Parents and family members have made invaluable contributions through their commitment, caring, and advocacy to important advances in research, education, and treatment for individuals with ASDs; and

**WHEREAS**, Individuals with ASDs are valuable and talented citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, The Central Coast Autism Spectrum Center will celebrate Autism Awareness Month in April 2012; and

**WHEREAS**, The Central Coast Autism Spectrum Center will celebrate Autism Awareness Month at the WALK for Autism and Autism Awareness Fair on April 29, 2012 in Mission Plaza; and

**WHEREAS**, Autism Awareness Month and The WALK for Autism and Autism Awareness Fair help to increase and develop knowledge of autism, and are of paramount importance in creating an empathetic and compassionate citizenry;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that I, Duane Picanco, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor, and speaking on behalf of the entire City Council, formally designate **APRIL 2012** as **AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH** in **PASO ROBLES** and emphasizes that each and every individual with an ASD is a valued and important member of our society; That the City of Paso Robles recognizes and commends the talents, abilities and contributions of the individuals in our community diagnosed with ASDs; and that the City of Paso Robles recognizes and commends the parents and relatives of individuals with ASDs, the professionals that provide valued services, and the Central Coast Autism Spectrum Center, for their sacrifice and dedication in providing for the special needs of individuals with ASDs.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, on this 3<sup>rd</sup> Day of April, 2012,  
I have hereunto set my hand and caused the  
Seal of the City of Paso Robles to be affixed.

Duane Picanco, Mayor  
City of El Paso de Robles