

Office of the Mayor



Proclamation

WHEREAS, autism is a pervasive developmental disorder affecting the social, communication and behavioral skills of those affected by it; and

WHEREAS, as more health professionals become proficient in diagnosing autism, more children are being diagnosed on the autism spectrum, resulting in rates as high as 1 in 68 children nationally and 1 in 45 in New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, while there is no cure for autism, it is well-documented that if individuals with autism receive early and intensive treatment throughout their lives, they lead significantly improved lives; and

WHEREAS, individuals with autism often require a lifetime of specialized and community support services to ensure their health and safety and to support families' resilience as they manage the psychological and financial burdens autism can present; and

WHEREAS, Autism New Jersey, now celebrating 50 years of service to the autism community, is spearheading an awareness effort in order to educate parents, professionals and the general public about autism and its effects.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that I, **CRAIG H. WILKIE**, do hereby proclaim April 2015 as *NATIONAL AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH* in the **Township of Florence**, and urge all employees and residents to participate in our municipality's *National Autism Awareness Month* activities, in order to become better educated about autism and create a better community for individuals with autism.



GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND
THE SEAL OF THE TOWNSHIP
OF FLORENCE, COUNTY OF
BURLINGTON, STATE OF NEW
JERSEY, THIS 1st DAY OF
APRIL, IN THE YEAR OF OUR
LORD TWO THOUSAND FIFTEEN.

CRAIG H. WILKIE
MAYOR

