

**RESOLUTION 2017-226**  
**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE**  
**FIBRODYSPLASIA OSSIFICANS PROGRESSIVA (FOP) AWARENESS INITIATIVE**

**WHEREAS**, Fibrodysplasia Ossificans Progressiva (FOP) is a rare genetic condition in which the body makes additional bone in locations where bone should not form, such as within muscles, tendons, ligaments, and other connective tissues, which in time produces a ' second skeleton ' that immobilizes the joints of the body; and

**WHEREAS**, one in every seven Americans suffer from musculoskeletal impairment causing physical disability and severe long-term pain; and

**WHEREAS**, the symptoms of FOP usually begin in the first or second decade of life, with the majority of patients diagnosed by the age of 10 depriving children of normal development; and

**WHEREAS**, FOP is considered an orphan disease whereby it affects so few people and there are less than 12 diagnosed cases in New Jersey and approximately 200 in the nation; and

**WHEREAS**, musculoskeletal research is close to achieving major breakthroughs that likely will change and simplify the way bone and joint disorders are treated and prevented throughout the world; and

**WHEREAS**, there is a need for greater awareness of this disorder, its symptoms and the obstacles faced by persons and families affected by this disorder.


**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Florence Township Mayor and Council, in the County of Burlington and State of New Jersey, hereby applaud and recognize Gary W. Whyte as an outstanding individual for his tenacious drive to support and help so many within the community for the awareness of Fibrodysplasia Ossificans Progressiva (FOP) and urge the medical community to continue researching for treatment and a cure for this rare genetic disorder.

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I, Nancy L. Erlston, Clerk of the Township of Florence, County of Burlington, State of New Jersey, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution is a true copy of the Resolution approved by Township Council at their December 6, 2017 meeting.

  
Nancy L. Erlston, RMC  
Township Clerk

