



# City of Bellevue | Proclamation

**Whereas:** Autism spectrum disorders are complex disorders of brain development characterized, in varying degrees, by repetitive behaviors and difficulties in social interaction and verbal and nonverbal communication.

**Whereas:** According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, one in 54 children is diagnosed with an autism spectrum disorder, and 5.4 million adults in the U.S. – over 2% of the population – have autism.

**Whereas:** More children will be diagnosed with autism this year than with AIDS, diabetes, obesity and breast cancer combined. There is no known cause or cure for autism.

**Whereas:** The cost of autism to the society in the U.S. is \$265 billion. The lifetime cost to an individual living with an autism spectrum disorder is estimated at \$2.3 million.

**Whereas:** There is help for families, friends and autism patients in the form of education, support and services.

**Whereas:** The City of Bellevue recognizes the efforts of organizations that fund and promote awareness of autism spectrum disorders. They improve the quality of life for people with the disorders and their loved ones, while also supporting research to find a cause and cure.

**Now, therefore, I,** Lynne Robinson, mayor of the Bellevue, Washington, and on behalf of its City Council, do hereby proclaim **April 2021** as:

## ***Autism Awareness Month***

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Lynne Robinson, Mayor  
City of Bellevue