



# Proclamation

**WHEREAS:** **Tourette Syndrome** is an inherited neurological disorder that is characterized by repetitive, involuntary physical and vocal tics that occur many times a day; and

**WHEREAS:** **Tourette Syndrome** is often accompanied by other mental health disorders such as Attention Deficit and obsessive compulsive disorder, learning disabilities, and anxiety; and

**WHEREAS:** **Tourette Syndrome** and tic disorders affect one in fifty children; more than 45, 880 school age children in the State of North Carolina alone are dealing with **Tourette Syndrome** and although some of these cases are aided by medication, there is no standard treatment or known cure for the disorder; and

**WHEREAS:** there is an important need for more professional help to identify, counsel, and treat people with **Tourette Syndrome**, a disorder that is often misdiagnosed and misunderstood; and

**WHEREAS:** positive actions to assist children and families living with **Tourette Syndrome** would result from a broadening of public and professional knowledge and acceptance of **Tourette Syndrome**; and

**WHEREAS:** the Tourette Association of America is actively providing services to families, educating medical professionals and teachers, and supporting research to better understand the signs and treatments of Tourette's Syndrome.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** I, Richard Franks, Mayor, and the City Council of the City of Gastonia, do hereby declare **May 15 - June 15, 2024** as

## **TOURETTE SYNDROME AWARENESS MONTH**

in the City of Gastonia as a special month to promote understanding, compassion, and acceptance for all of our fellow citizens who deserve and need our support to break the stigma that surrounds **Tourette Syndrome**.

**IN WITNESS THEREOF,** I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Gastonia to be affixed, this the 7<sup>th</sup> day of May in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty-four.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Richard Franks, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Suzanne J. Gibbs, City Clerk