

# Proclamation



MAYOR  
Rex Hardin

VICE MAYOR  
Alison Fournier  
District 3

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District 1

COMMISSIONER  
Rhonda Sigerson-Eaton  
District 2

COMMISSIONER  
Beverly Perkins  
District 4

COMMISSIONER  
Darlene Smith  
District 5

**WHEREAS:** Autism Acceptance Month is observed each year in April, with April 2nd recognized as World Autism Awareness Day by the United Nations, both designed to foster greater understanding, acceptance, and inclusion of individuals on the Autism spectrum; and

**WHEREAS:** Autism, or Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), is a broad spectrum of differences in social interaction, communication, behavior, and sensory processing. These differences are not deficits, but unique ways of experiencing and interacting with the world, ways that should be understood, respected, and supported; and

**WHEREAS:** People with autism may face challenges navigating environments that are not always designed to meet their needs. With understanding, appropriate support, and early intervention, individuals with autism can lead fulfilling, productive, and successful lives; and

**WHEREAS:** National Autism Acceptance Month is supported by the Autism Society of America, which has local chapters throughout the United States, as well as organizations like Responding2Autism, Inc., here in Pompano Beach. Together, these organizations support special events throughout April and lead initiatives that promote understanding, acceptance, and awareness of autism; and

**WHEREAS:** We must move beyond awareness of autism and foster true acceptance creating communities where individuals of all abilities are embraced, celebrated, and given equal opportunities to thrive.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I,** Mayor Rex Hardin, on behalf of the Commission and residents of the City of Pompano Beach, recognize and proclaim the month of April 2026, as **AUTISM ACCEPTANCE MONTH** and encourage all residents to engage in meaningful conversations, increase their knowledge, and extend their support to the Autism community.

**DONE** this 14<sup>TH</sup> day of April, 2026.



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REX HARDIN  
MAYOR