



**HONORARY PROCLAMATION DECLARING
APRIL 2014 AS
"AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH"**

WHEREAS, autism is a complex neurobiological disorder that typically lasts throughout a person's lifetime, and it is part of a group of disorders known as autism spectrum disorders (ASDs); and

WHEREAS, autism affects all persons regardless of race, religion, status or geography, with the incidence of autism in San Luis Obispo County reflecting a national rate of 1 in 88; and

WHEREAS, ASDs are the fastest growing serious developmental disability, making these disorders more common than pediatric cancer, diabetes, and AIDS combined; and

WHEREAS, individuals with ASDs and their families face tremendous and overwhelming challenges in accessing and navigating the complex programs and services for these disorders; and

WHEREAS, the Central Coast Autism Spectrum Center will celebrate Autism Awareness Month in the WALK for "Autism" and "Autism Awareness Fair" on May 4, 2014 in Mission Plaza. Both events help to increase and develop knowledge regarding autism and are of paramount importance in creating an empathetic and compassionate citizenry.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Tony Ferrara, Mayor of the City of Arroyo Grande, on behalf of the City Council, do hereby proclaim April 2014 as "**AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH**", recognize and commend the talents and abilities of the individuals in our community diagnosed with ASDs, and their parents, relatives, and professionals that provide valued services.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Arroyo Grande to be affixed this 8th day of April 2014.

TONY FERRARA, MAYOR



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