

PROCLAMATION

WORLD AUTISM AWARENESS DAY – APRIL 2, 2015

"LIGHT IT UP BLUE"

WHEREAS, autism is a common development disability, affecting an estimated 500,000 individuals nationwide and many more across the globe; and

WHEREAS, autism, a result of a neurological disorder that affects brain function, can significantly impair an individual's ability to learn, develop healthy interactive behaviors and understand verbal, nonverbal and reciprocal communication; and

WHEREAS, one in 88 children in the United States has an autism spectrum disorder (ASD), which includes autistic disorder, Rett syndrome, childhood disintegrative disorder, pervasive developmental disorder and Asperger syndrome; and

WHEREAS, with early and accurate diagnosis, coupled with compassionate education, persons with autism can be helped to reach their greatest potential; and

WHEREAS, Autism Speaks, incepted in 2005, has become the nation's largest organization dedicated to funding research into the causes, prevention, treatments and cure for autism; and

WHEREAS, on April 2, 2015, Autism Speaks asks that people all over the world "Light It Up Blue" by using blue bulbs and filters to promote awareness and show support to those diagnosed with ASD.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Anan Abu-Taleb, President of the Village of Oak Park and the Board of Trustees, do hereby proclaim April 2, 2015 as World Autism Day and urge all residents to "Light It Up Blue" to show their support and promote autism awareness.

DATED this 16th day of March 2015.

Anan Abu-Taleb
Village President

ATTEST:

Teresa Powell
Village Clerk