



Proclamation

By the Governor of Alabama

WHEREAS, Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is a developmental disability that affects how people communicate, interact and experience the world around them; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama Department of Mental Health (ADMH), in partnership with organizations across the state, observes Autism Acceptance Month each April to promote understanding and to support individuals with autism. This month serves as a reminder to move beyond awareness and embrace acceptance, celebrating differences and advocating for a more understanding society; and

WHEREAS, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, approximately one in 36 children in the United States has been identified with autism spectrum disorder (ASD). Additionally, more than 5.4 million adults in the U.S. are living with autism, highlighting the need for lifelong support and understanding; and

WHEREAS, individuals with ASD may face challenges with social interactions, communication and sensory processing, while also possessing unique strengths and talents. Early signs of autism often appear in childhood and persist throughout life, making early identification and access to support crucial for development and well-being; and

WHEREAS, the ADMH leads the Alabama Interagency Autism Coordinating Council, created to develop and implement a statewide comprehensive, coordinated, multidisciplinary, interagency system of care for individuals with autism spectrum disorder and their families. ADMH also partners with the Regional Autism Networks to offer resources, training, technical assistance and public education while serving as a valuable support system for individuals and families across Alabama; and

WHEREAS, throughout the month of April, we come together to promote and celebrate autism acceptance and advocate for a future where everyone has the opportunity to thrive, reach their fullest potential, and be accepted for who they are;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim April 2025, as

Autism Awareness Month

in the state of Alabama.



Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the Office of the Governor at the State Capitol in the City of Montgomery on the 10th day of April 2025.

Kay Ivey

Kay Ivey, Governor