



# MEMORANDUM

Date: February 24, 2022

To: Melissa Manriquez, Clerk of the Board  
Pima County Board of Supervisors

From: Sharon Bronson  
District 3 Supervisor, Chair  
Pima County Board of Supervisors

Re: Agenda Item for March 15th, 2022 Meeting

Please place the following items on the agenda for the Board of Supervisors meeting on March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

## NEW BUSINESS

Proclamation stating that the Pima County Board of Supervisors, hereby proclaim the month of April as Autism Acceptance Month in Pima County.

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## BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AGENDA ITEM REPORT

Requested Board Meeting Date: 3/15/2022

*\*= Mandatory, information must be provided*

Click or tap the boxes to enter text. If not applicable, indicate "N/A".

**\*Title:**

### Proclamation - Autism Acceptance Month - April 2022

**\*Introduction/Background:**

Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Autism is a complex, lifelong developmental disability that typically appears during early childhood and can impact a person's social skills, communication, relationships, and self-regulation. Autism is defined by a certain set of behaviors and is a "spectrum condition" that affects people differently and to varying degrees. According to the latest findings from the Arizona Developmental Disabilities Surveillance Program (ADDSP), About 1 in 40 8-year-old children in an area of Arizona were identified with ASD.

**\*Discussion:**

Shining a light on ASD will provide new opportunities for Pima County to consider how they can pave the way for acceptance. Through increased awareness, we can strive to eliminate stigma and create opportunities for individuals with autism to find connections in their community so they can thrive.

**\*Conclusion:**

Through increased acceptance, we can reach our goals to become a more inclusive society for individuals with Autism to find connections in their community so they can thrive.

**\*Recommendation:**

Proclaim the month of April as Autism Acceptance Month in Pima County.

**\*Fiscal Impact:**

N/A

**\*Board of Supervisor District:**

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Department: School Superintendent

Telephone: 520-260-3305

Contact: Matthew Stamp

Telephone: *Click or tap here to enter text.*

Department Director Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

2/23/2022

Deputy County Administrator Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

County Administrator Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is a complex, lifelong developmental condition that typically appears during early childhood and can impact a person's social skills, communications, relationships and self-regulation. The autism experience is different for everyone. It is defined by a set of behaviors and is often referred to as a "spectrum condition" that affects people differently and to varying degrees. According to the latest findings from the Arizona Developmental Disabilities Surveillance Program, about 1 in 40 8-year-old children in a region of Arizona were identified with ASD; and

**WHEREAS**, during the month of April, we are recognizing individuals and families affected by ASD in Southern Arizona. We are dedicated to promoting autism acceptance, inclusion and self-determination for autistic individuals. Individuals with ASD should be given equal opportunities to achieve their highest potential; and

**WHEREAS**, since 1992, the Autism Society of Southern Arizona and its affiliates have led our communities to increase awareness and offer support, education, resources, advocacy, programs, information and referrals; and

**WHEREAS**, shining a light on ASD can provide new opportunities for Pima County to consider how it can pave the way for acceptance. Acceptance is often one of the biggest barriers to being valued and finding and developing a strong support system; and

**WHEREAS**, fostering acceptance is critically important to improving opportunities in education, employment, accessible housing, affordable health care and comprehensive long-term services and support. Learning a child's developmental milestones and understanding the signs of ASD are imperative for families. Early intervention services from birth to age 3 can lead to improved outcomes for children with autism; and

**WHEREAS**, through increased acceptance, we can build an inclusive society where individuals with autism live fully through connection and opportunity.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Pima County Board of Supervisors hereby proclaims the month of April 2022 to be:

**"AUTISM ACCEPTANCE MONTH IN PIMA COUNTY"**

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** this 15th day of March 2022.

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The Honorable Sharon Bronson, Chair  
Pima County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

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Melissa Manriquez, Clerk  
Pima County Board of Supervisors