



# A PROCLAMATION

BY THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF SMYRNA

## 2024 CHILDHOOD CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

*Whereas,* Childhood cancer affects 47 new children each day nationwide, a battle which impacts entire communities including parents, grandparents, siblings, friends, and neighbors. This disease impacts hundreds of children each year in the state of Georgia, including some of Smyrna's youngest and most courageous citizens; and

*Whereas,* *Childhood Cancer Awareness Month (CCAM)* is recognized in September with the goal to increase awareness of childhood cancer, the need for more funding and research, and to support those families in Smyrna affected by childhood cancer, in honor and in memory of their children; and

*Whereas,* Families who have a son or daughter who are fighting or have fought active childhood cancer treatment often experience long term effects from the treatments that has helped them survive, and need additional emotional and medical care long after the final treatments are completed; and

*Whereas,* Families who have had a son or daughter pass away from childhood cancer often choose to honor their loved children by continuing to fight against childhood cancer, like Smyrna native Millie Mracek who passed away at age 3.5 years old in 2021. Her family started the Mighty Millie Foundation to continue funding research as well as spreading joy and awareness for families fighting childhood cancer; and

*Whereas,* Family support, research and advancements in childhood cancer are often funded by private charities run by individuals who have personally witnessed the long-term effects and outcomes of childhood cancer; and

*Whereas,* Many health care providers, charitable organizations, religious, and social groups come together during the month of September to host events, raise funds for research, and offer families physical, emotional, spiritual, and financial support. These groups are committed to supporting families and children through and after the uniquely difficult treatment process; Now

*Therefore,* I, Derek Norton, Mayor of the City of Smyrna, honor our youngest Smyrna residents, who have or are courageously battling pediatric cancer, and we proclaim *September 2024 as Childhood Cancer Awareness Month* and encourage all residents of Smyrna to join us in supporting the activities and events throughout the month of September to honor families walking through this journey at every step of the way to let them know that they are brave and they are not alone.

*In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Smyrna to be affixed upon this 26th day of August in the year of Our Lord 2024.*



*Derek Norton*  
Mayor

Derek Norton