

PROCLAMATION

DISTRIBUTED
TCRM 9-14-15

A PROCLAMATION DECLARING SEPTEMBER 2015 AS CHILDHOOD CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, in the past year, more than 18 Northwest Indiana children have been diagnosed with cancer and 3 children have lost their lives to cancer; and

WHEREAS, childhood cancer is the number one disease killer of our children in the United States. One in five are terminal at diagnosis; three in five suffer life altering impacts of treatment that significantly alter their quality of life; one in 285 will be diagnosed with cancer before the age of 20; and

WHEREAS, childhood cancers and adult cancers are different, yet we continue to use the downsized adult cancer protocols on kids with many times devastating effects. The lack of childhood cancer research has tremendous impact to kids and significant costs to society, now and in the future; and

WHEREAS, despite these facts, childhood cancer research is vastly and consistently underfunded. Less than 4% of the National Cancer Institute's budget is sole dedicated to childhood cancer research. In 25 years the FDA has initially approved only two drugs for any childhood cancer and half of all chemotherapies used for children's cancers are over 25 years old; and

WHEREAS, the incidence of cancer is on the rise with an estimated 15,700 children diagnosed every year (43 per day) in the United States alone. Of those 43 children per day, 8 will die; and

WHEREAS, the incidence of cancer among adolescents and young adults is increasing at a greater rate than any other age group, except those over 65 years of age and an estimated 2,900 children die each year of cancer in the United States alone. The average age of death for a child with cancer is 8, causing a child to lose 69 years of expected life; and

WHEREAS, many adult cancers can be diagnosed early, in 80% of children, cancer has already spread to other areas of the body by the time it is diagnosed; and

WHEREAS, the causes of most childhood cancers are unknown and at the present, childhood cancer cannot be prevented, and families who are or have been in treatment work tirelessly to change these alarming statistics. Now, therefore, be it

PROCLAIMED, by the Town Council of the Town of Munster that September 2015 be declared Childhood Cancer Awareness Month.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Town Council of the Town of Munster on the 14th day of September, 2015, by a vote of ____ in favor and ____ opposed.

**TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF
MUNSTER, LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA**
By

Andy Koulourides, President

ATTEST:

David F. Shafer, Clerk-Treasurer