

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS: Speech develops effortlessly in most children, but children with disorders like Childhood Apraxia of Speech (CAS) struggle. CAS is among the most severe speech deficits in children and affects approximately one in every 1,000 children; and

WHEREAS: Without appropriate speech therapy intervention, children with apraxia are at high risk of secondary developmental challenges in reading, writing, spelling, and other related skills, which in turn affects their future; and

WHEREAS: Early diagnosis and intervention via appropriate, intensive and frequent speech therapy are keys to improving the communication difficulties faced by children with CAS; and

WHEREAS: There is a need for greater public awareness about childhood apraxia of speech, particularly among those in the education, medical and government sectors; and

WHEREAS: Advocates should encourage insurance providers, schools, and policymakers to recognize the critical need to provide adequate speech therapy and other services so that the impact of this disorder is minimized and affected children can grow into productive, contributing adults; and

WHEREAS: To raise awareness of CAS, Apraxia Awareness Day, with 2019 marking its fifth observance.

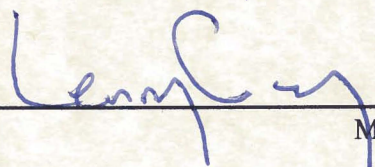
NOW, THEREFORE, I, LENNY CURRY, by virtue of the authority vested in me as mayor of Jacksonville, Florida, do hereby proclaim May 14, 2019 as

APRAXIA AWARENESS DAY

in Jacksonville and encourage all citizens to learn more about Childhood Apraxia of Speech and recognize the need for speech therapy and support for children with the disorder.



IN WITNESS THEREOF, this 23rd day of May
in the year Two Thousand 19


MAYOR

CITY OF JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA