



PROCLAMATION

ONE CITY. ONE JACKSONVILLE.

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: Every year, advocates raise awareness of CAS through Apraxia Awareness Day. Now it its 11th year, Apraxia Awareness Day continues to shine light on CAS in the community.

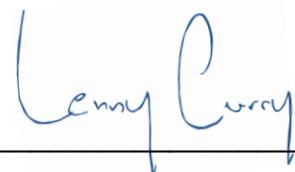
NOW, THEREFORE, I, LENNY CURRY, by virtue of the authority vested in me as mayor of Jacksonville, Florida, do hereby proclaim May 14, 2023 as

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 13th Day of April in the year Two Thousand and Twenty-Three.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lenny Curry".

MAYOR