## Township of Berona Proclamation

## NATIONAL AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, autism is a pervasive developmental disorder affecting the social, communication and behavioral skills of those affected by it; and

WHEREAS, as more health professionals become proficient in diagnosing autism, more children are being diagnosed on the autism spectrum, resulting in rates as high as 1 in 68 children nationally and 1 in 41 in New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, while there is no cure to autism, it is well-documented that if individuals with autism receive early and intensive treatment throughout their lives, they lead significantly improved lives; and

WHEREAS, individuals with autism often require a lifetime of specialized and community support services to ensure their health and safety and to support families' resilience as they manage the psychological and financial burdens autism can present; and

WHEREAS, Autism New Jersey is spearheading an awareness effort in order to educate parents, professionals, and the general public about autism and its effects.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED we, the Township Council of the Township of Verona do hereby proclaim April 2022 as NATIONAL AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH in Verona, and urge the public to participate in National Autism Awareness Month activities, in order to become better educated about autism and create a better community for individuals with autism.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hands and caused the great seal of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, State of New Jersey, to be affixed on this  $4^{th}$  day of April 2022.

Alex Roman Mayor

Councilwoman

Christopher Tamburro Councilman

Christyh H. Taulin

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Christine McGrath

Deputy Mayor

Jack McEvoy Councilman

Cynthia Holland

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