



Juvenile Arthritis Proclamation – July 2023

WHEREAS, over 300,000 kids in the US have doctor-diagnosed arthritis. July is Juvenile Arthritis (JA) Awareness Month and the Arthritis Foundation is passionate about fighting for a cure and raising awareness for JA warriors; and

WHEREAS, there are many forms of Juvenile Arthritis, the disease attacks the child’s joints and immune system causing pain, inflammation, and stiffness. With multiple types of JA, each form affects the child differently; and

WHEREAS, 300,000+ children in the U. S., that’s 1 in 250, live with arthritis; and

WHEREAS, Juvenile Arthritis is one of the most common childhood diseases in the U.S.; and

WHEREAS, early diagnosis is a key to stopping greater progression and damage from the disease. Although there have been advances in identifying JA earlier, we are still not where we need to be, as many children are misdiagnosed until they are referred to a pediatric rheumatologist; and

WHEREAS, arthritis is our nation’s leading cause of disability, resulting in an annual \$128 billion price tag that includes \$81 billion in direct costs and \$47 billion in indirect costs; and

WHEREAS, we remain hopeful for a cure as we continue to fund research to learn more about Juvenile Arthritis. Medicine and medical treatments have become more advanced over the years, helping kids with arthritis live fuller lives; and

WHEREAS, Juvenile Arthritis Awareness Month (July) is an opportunity to increase awareness of the disease and recognize the importance of seeking appropriate treatment to minimize the disabling impact on daily lives.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Christie Rainwater, Mayor of the City of Hanahan, do hereby proclaim July 2023 as Juvenile Arthritis Awareness Month in the City of Hanahan.

Duly done this the 11th day of July 2023.

Christie Rainwater, Mayor

Emily Huff, Clerk of Council