

Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-6

DESIGNATING THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 7th – FEBRUARY 14th AS CONGENITAL HEART DEFECT AWARENESS WEEK IN THE CITY OF BERE, IN HONOR OF MARYSSA RIVAS AND THE MARYSSA'S MISSION FOUNDATION, AND RECOGNIZING THE FOUNDATION FOR ITS DEDICATION TO, AND SUPPORT OF, FAMILIES CARING FOR MEDICALLY FRAGILE CHILDREN.

WHEREAS, Congenital Heart Defect (CHD) is the life-long consequence of a heart defect or a structural abnormality of the heart, present at birth, and is the most common type of birth defect; and

WHEREAS, 1 in approximately 100 children are born with CHD, and 1 in 4 of those children require heart surgery or other intervention in order to survive this lifelong disease, for which there remains no cure; and

WHEREAS, countless families have been affected by the struggles associated with CHD, none more so than Mitch and Mindy Rivas and their family, whose daughter, Maryssa, was born with an uncommon type of congenital heart defect, and underwent her first heart procedure at a small but mighty 2lbs. 6oz., in her first 6 hours of life; and

WHEREAS, Maryssa was a fighter and an inspiration to so many, and in her short 28 months on Earth, her contagious smile and relentless spirit instilled in her family a desire to be a source of generosity and grace to other families facing the challenges of caring for a medically fragile child, as a way of cultivating and continuing Maryssa's mission; and

WHEREAS, sustained and strengthened by faith, and undoubtedly inspired by the eternal love for their little Angel above, Mitch and Mindy Rivas founded The Maryssa's Mission Foundation, which has, since December of 2015, assisted families with medically fragile children by providing blessing bags, delicious meals, temporary housing, prayers and a constant source of strength and support, offering hope in the face of exhausting adversity; and

WHEREAS, The Maryssa's Mission Foundation has partnered with the Pediatric Congenital Heart Association to raise awareness about congenital heart defects and disease, and to, throughout Congenital Heart Defect Awareness Week and after, recognize individuals born with heart defects who battle bravely every day, remember loved ones who have succumb to their conditions, honor dedicated healthcare professionals committed to treatment, care and finding a cure, and comfort families whose hearts are breaking by offering healing words of compassion and actions of love.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the City of Berea, State of Ohio:

SECTION 1. That it be formally declared that the week of February 7th – February 14th is to be designated as *Congenital Heart Defect Awareness Week* in the City of Berea, in honor of Maryssa Rivas and The Maryssa's Mission Foundation, and that the Mayor of the City of Berea, the President and all Members of Council, the Officers of the Administration, and the residents of our community do recognize, admire and applaud The Maryssa's Mission Foundation for its dedication to, and support of, families caring for medically fragile children and, with humble hearts, offer our sincere gratitude to Mitch, Malinda, Makenzie, Mateo, and Maryssa's twin sister, Malinah, for truly achieving their mission of being the blessing they prayed to receive.

SECTION 2. That it is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the approval of this Resolution were approved in an open meeting of this Council, and that all deliberations of this Council and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal actions were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

SECTION 3. That this Resolution shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its passage and approval by the Mayor.

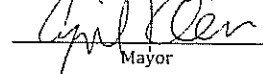
PASSED: February 5, 2018


President of Council

ATTEST:


Clerk of Council

APPROVED: February 5, 2018


Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

