PROCLAMATION NO. 2024-17

CHILDHOOD CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, the month of September is designated as National Childhood Cancer Awareness Month and serves as an outlet to honor the young lives taken too soon, and as a means to increase public awareness of this disease affecting children across the United States; and

WHEREAS, childhood cancer is the leading cause of death by disease in children with 1 in 285 children in the United States being diagnosed by their 20th birthday; and

WHEREAS, the average age of diagnosis is 6 years old, compared to 66 years for adults' cancer, and 80% of childhood cancer patients are diagnosed late and with metastatic disease; and

WHEREAS, 46 children per day or 16,790 children (age 0- 19) per year are diagnosed with cancer in the U.S. More than two-thirds of childhood cancer patients will have chronic health conditions as a result of their treatment toxicity, with one quarter being classified as severe to life-threatening; and

WHEREAS, approximately one half of childhood cancer families rate the associated financial toxicity due to out-of-pocket expenses as considerable to severe; and

WHEREAS, in the last 30 years only six (6) new drugs have been approved by the FDA to specifically treat childhood cancer; and

WHEREAS, recognizing the unique research needs of childhood cancer and the associated need for increased funding is critical to allow healthcare professionals to work diligently dedicating their expertise to treat and cure children with cancer; and

WHEREAS, many parents and family members feel terrified and are overwhelmed following a child's cancer diagnosis, therefore it is important to encourage additional non-profit organizations at the local and national level to assist children with cancer and their families in coping through educational, emotional and financial support.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Maureen Copelof, Mayor of the City of Brevard hereby proclaim the month of September 2024 as **"Childhood Cancer Awareness Month"** in the City of Brevard and I encourage citizens, government agencies, private businesses, nonprofit organizations, the media, and other interested groups to increase awareness of what citizens can do to support the fight against childhood cancer.

Proclaimed this the 3rd day of September, 2023.

Maureen Copelof

Maureen Copelof, Mayor

Attest:

Denise Hodsdon

Denise Hodsdon, CMC
City Clerk

CITY OF BREVARD, NC
CORPORATE SEAL