



# Proclamation

## Disability Awareness Month

June 2019

**Whereas**, the Society for disABILITY will commemorate June 2019, and each June hereafter, as Disability Awareness Month. Disabilities can affect all people, regardless of race, age, gender, or social status and the essence of life is not embodied by physical or mental perfection, but it is an integral part of human spirit; and

**Whereas**, increasing public awareness about diverse abilities is vital to fighting the stigma and discrimination that often serve as a barrier to employment, socialization, and individual well-being; and

**Whereas**, there are an estimated 4,206,918 people with disabilities in the State of California, and over 82,703 people with disabilities in San Joaquin County; and

**Whereas**, within the next year, at least one out of eight Californians will experience a disability personally or through a family member; and

**Whereas**, people with different disabilities are independent, productive, and part of our community. Education, understanding, access engagement, and relationships are important components of a connected, livable, and healthy community; and

**Whereas**, communities thrive when residents appreciate the unique gifts inside people of all abilities and by developing relationships with our neighbors, we make our community a place where everyone participates and is a valued member; and

**Now, Therefore**, I, Benjamin Cantu, Mayor of the City of Manteca, on behalf of City Council, do recognize the Month of June 2019, as Disability Awareness Month within the City of Manteca and we urge all our citizens to become aware of the needs and capabilities of persons with disabilities.

**DATE:** June 4, 2019

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Mayor Benjamin J. Cantu