

Office of the Mayor



# Proclamation

## RETT SYNDROME AWARENESS MONTH OCTOBER, 2024

**WHEREAS,** Rett syndrome is a rare postnatal genetic neurological disorder that occurs almost exclusively in females, and rarely in males; and

**WHEREAS,** the symptoms of Rett syndrome usually do not appear until six to eighteen months after birth; and

**WHEREAS,** a regression period follows in which acquired motor skills are lost, leading to lifelong impairments, including loss of speech, seizures, scoliosis, and irregular breathing patterns. The hallmark sign of Rett syndrome is near-constant repetitive hand movements while awake; and

**WHEREAS,** those diagnosed with Rett syndrome require maximum assistance with daily living activities; and

**WHEREAS,** the disorder is not degenerative, and biomedical research suggests that neurological symptoms may be reversed even after decades of severe symptoms; and

**WHEREAS,** although there is no cure at present, there is good news. With the discovery of the reversal of Rett syndrome symptoms in lab models in 2007, they now know that this disease can be cured. Current research shows that Rett syndrome could be the first reversible genetic brain disorder, and also unlock the door to treatments and a cure for other neurological disorders; and

**WHEREAS,** we should continue our efforts in bringing awareness to the medical community, therapists, teachers, caregivers, and the public, and support researchers who are dedicated to finding a cure for Rett syndrome; and

**WHEREAS,** Monroe's **Clare Fitzgerald** was born with Rett Syndrome. Her mother and father, Allison and Brendan and older sister Anya advocate for awareness and fundraise through **Clare sMiles for a Cure**.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** be it resolved that I, **STEPHEN DALINA**, Mayor of the Township of Monroe, do hereby proclaim **October 2024**, as **Rett Syndrome Awareness** in the Township of Monroe.

Dated: October 1, 2024

  
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**STEPHEN DALINA, MAYOR**