

Office of the Mayor



Proclamation

RETT SYNDROME AWARENESS MONTH, OCTOBER, 2022

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 2022**, as **Rett Syndrome Awareness** in the Township of Monroe.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stephen Dalina".

Dated: October 1, 2022

STEPHEN DALINA, MAYOR