



PROCLAMATION

PANDAS/PANS Awareness Day

WHEREAS, Pediatric Autoimmune Neuropsychiatric Disorders Associated with Streptococcal Infections/Pediatric Acute-onset Neuropsychiatric Syndromes (PANDAS/PANS) is a sudden, dramatic change in a child's personality displayed as Obsessive Compulsive Disorder with accompanying symptoms following a strep, bacterial, or viral infection; and

WHEREAS, A conservative estimate of prevalence is 162,000 in the US alone. PANDAS/PANS is likely as common as Pediatric Cancer and Pediatric Diabetes, and can seriously affect the healthy outcome of a child's life; and

WHEREAS, the OCD can display as intense fear or anxiety with accompanying symptoms such as tics, anxiety, phobias, depression, behavioral regression, rage, deterioration in school performance, sensory sensitivities, severely restricted food intake, and more, and

WHEREAS, researchers have begun to substantiate that this syndrome involves a misdirected autoimmune process that affects or weakens the Blood Brain Barrier, where the inflammatory process irritates a region of the brain that manages a variety of functions such as movement, cognitive perception, habit, executive "logic based" thinking, emotions, and the endocrine system; and

WHEREAS, PANDAS/PANS is often misdiagnosed and undertreated. Treatment varies by the needs of the child, but may include antibiotics, steroids, IVIG (intravenous immunoglobulin), Plasmapheresis, Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, and anti-inflammatory medications; and

WHEREAS, It is imperative that there be greater public awareness of this health issue, and more must be done to increase activity at the local, State and national levels, and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, John M. Woods, Mayor of Davidson, do hereby proclaim that Monday, October 9, 2017 will be recognized as "**PANDAS/PANS AWARENESS DAY**" in the Town of Davidson, as a special day to raise awareness about this health issue and available treatment options.

Proclaimed this the 26th day of September, 2017.

John M. Woods, Mayor