

SAMPLE LOCAL PROCLAMATION:

PROCLAMATION CHILDHOOD CANCER AWARENESS MONTH SEPTEMBER 2015*

- Whereas In the past year, more than 18 Northwest Indiana children have been diagnosed with cancer and in the past year, 3 children have lost their lives to cancer.
- Whereas Childhood Cancer is the #1 disease related killer of kids in the U.S. 1 in 5 children are terminal at diagnosis. 3 in 5 suffer life altering impacts of treatment that significantly alter their quality of life. 1 in 285 children will be diagnosed with cancer before the age of 20.
- Whereas Childhood cancer is on the rise. Childhood cancers and adult cancers are different, yet we continue to use the downsized adult cancer protocols on kids with many times devastating effects. The lack of childhood cancer research has tremendous impact to kids and significant costs to society, now and in the future.
- Whereas Despite these facts, childhood cancer research is vastly and consistently underfunded. Less than 4% of the National Cancer Institute's Budget is solely dedicated to childhood cancer research. In 25 years the FDA has initially approved only two drugs for any childhood cancer and half of all chemotherapies used for children's cancers are over 25 years old.
- Whereas The incidence of childhood cancer is on the rise with an estimated 15,700 children diagnosed every year (43 per day) in the United State alone. Of those 43 children per day, 8 will die.
- Whereas The incidence of cancer among adolescents and young adults is increasing at a greater rate than any other age group, except those over 65 years of age and an estimated 2,900 children die each year of cancer in the United States alone. The average age of death for a child with cancer is 8, causing a child to lose 69 years of expected life.
- Whereas Many adult cancers can be diagnosed early, in 80% of kids, cancer has already spread to other areas of the body by the time it is diagnosed.
- Whereas The causes of most childhood cancers are unknown and at the present, childhood cancer cannot be prevented, and families who are or have been in treatment work tirelessly to change these alarming statistics.

* NICK Northwest Indiana Cancer Kids Foundation