



Proclamation

Whereas: Usher Syndrome is a relatively rare genetic disorder caused by a mutation in one of at least 11 genes resulting in a combination of hearing loss and visual impairment and is a leading cause of combined deafness and blindness; and,

Whereas: it is estimated that more than 400,000 people are affected by this genetic disorder worldwide, with as many as 25,000 of those in the United States; and,

Whereas: vision loss in Usher syndrome is caused by a progressive vision disorder known as retinitis pigmentosa (RP), where light-sensing cells in the retina gradually deteriorate, initially resulting in night blindness, followed by a narrowing of the visual field; and,

Whereas: children with Usher syndrome are born with or develop hearing loss and it is estimated that as many as 10% of people with congenital bilateral sensorineural hearing loss have Usher syndrome; and,

Whereas: there are three clinical types, Type 1, Type 2 and Type 3, which are distinguished by the severity and age when the signs and symptoms appear; and,

Whereas: because of limited public awareness, those affected with Usher syndrome may suffer from depression, anxiety, isolation, and loss of independence; and,

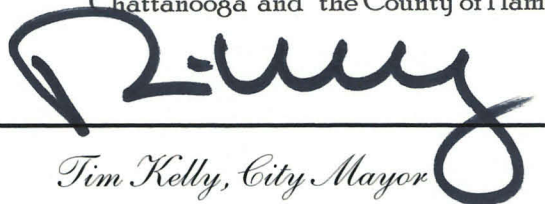
Whereas: the Usher syndrome community is uniting around the world to spread public awareness but is especially recognized the 3rd Saturday of September annually.

NOW, THEREFORE, We, Tim Kelly, Mayor of the City of Chattanooga, and Weston Wamp, Mayor of Hamilton County, Tennessee, do hereby proclaim September 17, 2022 as

“Usher Syndrome Awareness Day”

In Chattanooga and Hamilton County, and urge all citizens to join me in this worthy observance.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hands and caused the Seals of the City of Chattanooga and the County of Hamilton to be affixed this the 8th day of September, 2022.



Tim Kelly, City Mayor



Weston Wamp, County Mayor