



PROCLAMATION

Apraxia Awareness Day

May 14, 2024

Whereas May 14, 2024, marks Childhood Apraxia of Speech Day during which awareness will be raised throughout Kingston about childhood apraxia of speech, an extremely challenging speech disorder that affects 1-in-1,000 children; and

Whereas childhood apraxia of speech (CAS) causes children to have significant difficulty learning to speak and is among the most severe speech deficits in children; and

Whereas the act of learning to speak comes effortlessly to most children, those with apraxia require early, appropriate, and intensive speech therapy, often for many years to learn to speak; and

Whereas without appropriate speech therapy intervention, children with apraxia will have diminished communication skills, but are also placed at high risk for secondary impacts in reading, writing, spelling, and other school-related skills; and

Whereas that such primary and secondary impacts diminish future independence and employment opportunities and challenge the ability to become productive, contributing citizens if not resolved or improved; and

Whereas public awareness about childhood apraxia of speech in Kingston is essential for families of children with this neurological disorder and the professionals who support them to achieve the needed services for those learning to use their own voice.

Therefore, I, Mayor Bryan Paterson, on behalf of Kingston City Council, hereby proclaim May 14, 2024 to be "Apraxia Awareness Day" in the City of Kingston.

Dated at Kingston this 20th day of March, 2024.

Bryan Paterson
Mayor