



Proclamation

WHEREAS, myotonic dystrophy is a rare, multi-systemic, inherited disease that affects approximately 1 in 2,100 people and a total of 150,000 individuals in the United States; and

WHEREAS, myotonic dystrophy is the most common form of adult muscular dystrophy and the symptoms of myotonic dystrophy become more severe with each generation. The disease is caused by mutations in the DMPK gene and the CNBP gene, resulting in myotonic dystrophy type 1 and myotonic dystrophy type 2, respectively; and

WHEREAS, those mutations prevent the DMPK gene and the CNBP gene from functioning properly, impacting multiple body systems; and

WHEREAS, through this inherited genetic anomaly, individuals with myotonic dystrophy experience varied and complex symptoms, including skeletal muscle problems, excessive daytime sleepiness, early cataracts, and heart, breathing, digestive, hormonal, speech, swallowing, diabetic, immune, vision, and cognitive difficulties; and

WHEREAS, myotonic dystrophy is a highly variable and complicated disorder in which the younger an individual is when symptoms first appear, the more severe symptoms are likely to be, with progressively more severe symptoms occurring after the earlier symptoms are experienced; and

WHEREAS, there are currently no treatments for myotonic dystrophy approved by the Food and Drug Administration.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ben Marciano, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Ocala, do hereby proclaim September 15, 2024, as:

INTERNATIONAL MYOTONIC DYSTROPHY AWARENESS DAY

in Ocala and urge all citizens to participate in by talking about their experiences with friends, family members and in our community to raise awareness and help foster greater understanding about the disease.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Ocala, Florida, to be affixed this 15th day of September 2024.



Ben Marciano

Ben Marciano, Mayor
City of Ocala