STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
)
COUNTY OF DARLINGTON)

RESOLUTION NO. 673

PROCLAIMING THE MONTH OF APRIL AS
AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH IN DARLINGTON COUNTY

WHEREAS, Autism is a severely incapacitating, lifelong developmental disability, resulting in significant impairment of an individual's ability to learn, develop healthy interactive behaviors, and understand verbal, nonverbal, and reciprocal communication; and

WHEREAS, Autism is the result of a neurological disorder affecting the functioning of the brain; and

WHEREAS, Autism is the third most common developmental disability, affecting more than 1,500,000 individuals nationwide and approximately 16,048 individuals in South Carolina; and

WHEREAS, early diagnosis and the resulting appropriate education and intervention are vital to the future growth and development of persons with autism; and

WHEREAS, the annual observance of Autism Awareness Month advocates for the rights, humane treatment, and appropriate education of all persons with autism, while educating families, professionals, and the general public to better understand this lifelong disability.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the governing body of Darlington County, South Carolina, the Darlington County Council, to hereby proclaim **April 2017** as

AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH IN DARLINGTON COUNTY

and encourage all citizens to work together to ensure that individuals with autism are accurately diagnosed and appropriately treated throughout their lives.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the official seal of Darlington County to be affixed on this **6th** day of **March 2017**.

Bobby Hudson, Chairman
Darlington County Council

Attest: _____
J. Janet Bishop, Clerk to Council