

*Proclamation declaring September 2021
National Childhood Cancer Awareness Month*

Whereas this month, Hidalgo County honors more than 420,000 survivors of childhood and adolescent cancers in the United States; and

Whereas although the causes of childhood cancer are not completely understood, adult cancers are often linked to lifestyle or environmental factors. Cancer in children is different in several ways because in a young person, cancer is less likely to be caused by the patient's environment or lifestyle; and

Whereas learning what genetic changes caused a cancer can help doctors diagnose it more effectively. Cancer is the leading cause of death by disease past infancy for U.S. children. About 175,000 children in the United States under the age of 14 will be diagnosed with cancer in 2021 worldwide; and

Whereas treatment of childhood cancer is coordinated by a team of experts who know the differences between adult and childhood cancers, as well as the unique needs of children with cancer and their families. This team usually includes: Pediatric Oncologists, Pediatric Surgeons, Radiation Oncologists, Pediatric Oncology Nurses and Nurse Practitioners (NPs) and Physician Assistants (PAs); and

Whereas the team can also include many professionals other than nurses and doctors. Children's cancer centers have psychologists, social workers, child life specialists, nutritionists, rehabilitation and physical therapists, and educators who can support and care for the entire family; and

Whereas sincerest gratitude is also expressed to those who work tirelessly to ensure that all children can live healthy, long, and productive lives.

Now therefore, be it proclaimed that the Hidalgo County Commissioners Court does hereby proclaim September as National Childhood Cancer Awareness Month and recognizes the brave young children for their resilient spirit and immeasurable courage.

Approved this 7th day of September 2021.

RICHARD F. CORTEZ
County Judge

DAVID L. FUENTES
County Commissioner, Pct. 1

EDUARDO "EDDIE" CANTU
County Commissioner, Pct. 2

EVERARDO "EVER" VILLARREAL
County Commissioner, Pct. 3

ELLIE TORRES
County Commissioner, Pct. 4

Attest: ARTURO GUAJARDO, JR.
County Clerk