

## **PROCLAMATION FOR 3.21 - WORLD DOWN SYNDROME DAY**

**WHEREAS**, WORLD DOWN SYNDROME DAY is a global awareness initiative by the United Nations Convention, that recognizes the meaningful contributions of individuals with Down Syndrome, who are deserving of equal rights and opportunities to participate in society; and

**WHEREAS**, Individuals born with Down Syndrome are gifted with an extra, or 3<sup>rd</sup>, copy of the 21<sup>st</sup> chromosome; and

**WHEREAS**, Down Syndrome occurs naturally-there is no known cause; and

**WHEREAS**, the World Down Syndrome Day theme in 2023 is ‘**WITH US, NOT FOR US**’ which advocates for a human-rights based approach to disability and views people with disabilities as having the right to be treated fairly and inclusively; and

**WHEREAS**, Hidalgo County is inspired by the spirit and exuberant joy with which these treasured Americans live each day; and

**WHEREAS**, Hidalgo County Precinct 2 supports and advocates for an inclusive county, one where all citizens including those with Down syndrome are embraced in schools, workplaces, and communities—one where discrimination can no longer cast a shadow of inequality.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Hidalgo County Commissioners Court hereby proclaims March 21<sup>st</sup> as World Down Syndrome Day and encourages community leaders and businesses to work **with** individuals with Down Syndrome.

**Approved this 21st day of March 2023**