

# Hidalgo County

## Proclamation declaring October Down Syndrome Awareness Month

*Whereas* each year, approximately 6,000 babies are born in the United States with Down syndrome. Though these newborns will experience many challenges, American innovation and research is helping these beautiful souls lead independent, full, and happy lives; and

*Whereas* every human life possesses immeasurable value and has fundamental moral worth. People with Down syndrome deserve to be fully included and actively participate in all aspects of society; and

*Whereas* Hidalgo County is inspired by the spirit and exuberant joy with which these treasured Americans live each day. People with Down syndrome should be defined by their own strengths, abilities, and inherent value; and

*Whereas* this month of October is an important opportunity for Hidalgo County to reaffirm commitment to creating a society that better appreciates and respects the dignity of life in all of its beautiful and miraculous stages. Together, we can create an inclusive county, one where citizens with Down syndrome are embraced in schools, workplaces, and communities—one where discrimination can no longer cast a shadow of inequality — with appropriate resources and support groups, allowing people with Down syndrome to make decisions about their own lives and be heard on issues affecting their lives.

*Now therefore, be it proclaimed* that the Hidalgo County Commissioners Court hereby declares the month of October as Down Syndrome Awareness Month and encourages community leaders and businesses to foster opportunities for persons with Down syndrome, so they are better able to participate in our workforce and pursue their dreams.

Approved this 19<sup>th</sup> day of October 2021.



RICHARD F. CORTEZ  
County Judge



DAVID L. FUENTES  
County Commissioner, Pct. 1



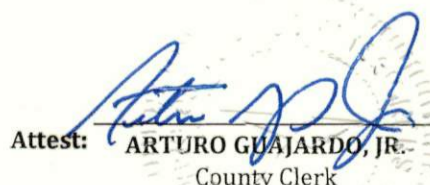
EDUARDO "EDDIE" CANTU  
County Commissioner, Pct. 2



EVERARDO "EVER" VILLARREAL  
County Commissioner, Pct. 3



ELLIE TORRES  
County Commissioner, Pct. 4



Attest: ARTURO GUAJARDO, JR.  
County Clerk

