



City of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County



JOINT PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, World Polio Day is observed annually on October 24th to commemorate the birth of Jonas Salk, who led the first team to develop a vaccine against poliomyelitis; the global effort to eradicate polio has been one of the most successful public health initiatives, reducing polio cases by over 99% since 1988; and

WHEREAS, Rotary International, the World Health Organization, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, UNICEF, and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation have led the Global Polio Eradication Initiative; and

WHEREAS, polio is a highly infectious disease that can cause paralysis and sometimes even death, primarily affecting children under the age of five; thanks to extensive vaccination efforts, polio is now endemic in only Afghanistan and Pakistan, but it remains a threat until it is eradicated everywhere; and

WHEREAS, the eradication of polio will prevent an estimated 10 million cases of paralysis in children over the next 40 years and will save over \$40 billion in healthcare costs, particularly in low-income countries; continued vigilance and immunization are essential to ensure that polio does not return to polio-free countries; and


WHEREAS, the residents of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County are encouraged to support polio eradication efforts and raise awareness about the importance of vaccination; on this World Polio Day, we honor the dedication and efforts of healthcare workers, volunteers, and organizations who strive to eliminate this disease and improve global health:

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, Vi Alexander Lyles, Mayor of Charlotte, and George Dunlap, Chair of the Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim October 24, 2024 as

“WORLD POLIO DAY”

in Charlotte and Mecklenburg County and commend its observance to all citizens.

WITNESS OUR HANDS and the official Seals of the City of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County.


Vi Alexander Lyles
Mayor


George Dunlap, Chair
Mecklenburg Board of
County Commissioners