



Proclamation

Whereas, All citizens want and deserve the opportunity to safely and meaningfully participate in all aspects of our community, including recreation, education, work, social and civic activities; and

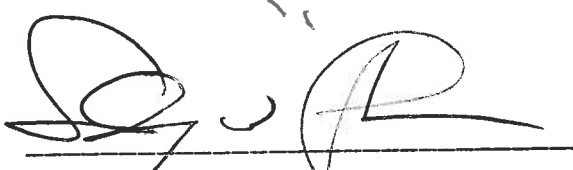
Whereas, Our communities can grow closer through, education, awareness, understanding and *seeing* one another, and benefit from recognizing each other's abilities, commonalities and differences; and

Whereas, Our communities gain value as they are more aware of the capabilities of, and provide opportunities for, individuals with developmental disabilities to be part of their communities; and,

Whereas, it is in the public's interest to offer individuals with developmental disabilities an opportunity to live and work in our communities where they can exercise their full rights and responsibilities as citizens; and

Whereas, Individuals with developmental disabilities and other citizens are unnoticed, ignored and excluded:

Now, Therefore, I, Sidney W. Leiken, Mayor of the City of Springfield, do hereby proclaim August 15 - 21, 2010, "Look Me in the Eye" week and encourage all citizens of our community to participate in *seeing* one another.



Sidney W. Leiken

6/29/10

Date