Proclamation
Office of the Mayor

DUCHENNE MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy (Duchenne) is the most common fatal genetic disorder diagnosed in childhood, affecting approximately one in every 5,000 live male births each year; and

WHEREAS, the Duchenne gene is found on the X-chromosome and primarily affects boys, however, it occurs across all genders and races; and

WHEREAS, Duchenne results in progressive loss of strength and is caused by a mutation in the gene that encodes for dystrophin, which when absent cause the muscle cells to be easily damaged, leading to serious medical issues, particularly relating to the heart and lungs; and

WHEREAS, the typical life expectancy of people afflicted with Duchenne is only into their late twenties; and

WHEREAS, Duchenne can be passed from parent to child, but approximately 35% of the cases occur due to a random spontaneous mutation; and

WHEREAS, despite medical treatments that may help slow its progression, there is currently no cure for Duchenne; and

WHEREAS, because it is a rare disease, one of the greatest tools in the fight to end Duchenne is raising awareness.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Danielle DiPaola, Mayor of the Borough of Emerson, on behalf of the Governing Body, do hereby proclaim September 2026 as Duchenne Awareness Month in the Borough of Emerson and encourage all Emersonians to increase their understanding and awareness of Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy.

Danielle DiPaola, Mayor
September 15, 2026