

**Town of Scarborough, Maine
Proclamation 23-004 Recognizing
September 2023 As
Childhood Cancer Awareness Month**

WHEREAS, the month of September is designated as National Childhood Cancer Awareness Month and serves as an outlet to honor the young lives taken too soon, and as a means to increase public awareness of this disease affecting children across the United States; and,

WHEREAS, childhood cancer is the leading cause of death by disease in children with 1 in 260 children in the United States being diagnosed by their 20th birthday; and,

WHEREAS, the average age of diagnosis is 6 years old, compared to 66 years for adults' cancer, 80% of childhood cancer patients are diagnosed late and with metastatic disease; and,

WHEREAS, in 2023, 47 children per day or 17,293 children (age 0-19) were diagnosed with cancer in the U.S More than 95% of childhood cancer survivors will have chronic health conditions as a result of their treatment toxicity, with one quarter being classified as severe to life-threatening; and,

WHEREAS, approximately one half of childhood cancer families rate the associated financial toxicity due to out-of-pocket expenses as considerable to severe; and,

WHEREAS, in the last 20 years only 4 new drugs have been approved by the FDA to specifically treat childhood cancer, and,

WHEREAS, recognizing the unique research needs of childhood cancer and the associated need for increased funding is critical to allow healthcare professionals to work diligently dedicating their expertise to treat and cure children with cancer; and,

WHEREAS, many parents and family members feel terrified and are overwhelmed following a child's cancer diagnosis therefore it is important to encourage additional non-profit organizations at the local and national level to assist children with cancer and their families in coping through educational, emotional and financial support.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Scarborough Town Council and the Town Manager, that the Town of Scarborough does hereby proclaim the month of September 2023 as:

“Childhood Cancer Awareness Month”

in the Town of Scarborough and I encourage citizens, government agencies, private businesses, nonprofit organizations, the media, and other interested groups to increase awareness of what citizens can do to support the fight against childhood cancer.

Signed and sealed this 29th day of August, 2023, on behalf of the Scarborough Town Council and the Town Manager of Scarborough, Maine.

Signed by: */s/ Jonathan E. Anderson*
 Council Chair

Signed by: */s/ Thomas J. Hall*
 Town Manager

Attested by: */s/ Yolande P. Justice*
 Town Clerk