



THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

MAYOR DOMENIC J. SARNO

HOME OF THE BASKETBALL HALL OF FAME

Proclamation

Whereas,

On December 20, 2022, Governor Charles Baker signed Massachusetts House Bill 3211 into law, designating May 6 as Moyamoya Disease Awareness Day in the Commonwealth. This is a significant win for those living with this rare disease and their families, for the medical community, and for local charity Credit Unions Kids at Heart, which has advocated for the bill for nearly a decade; and

Whereas,

Moyamoya is a progressive condition in which the vessels that supply blood to the brain become narrowed. Although the brain tries to compensate for the reduced blood flow by growing new blood vessels, these vessels eventually stop working. The disease's name means "puff of smoke" in Japanese, a reference to the wispy, cloud-like appearance of these new blood vessels. Studies show that a patient with Moyamoya has a 66-90% chance of having a stroke within 5 years of diagnosis. These strokes can be severe, causing long term effects including cognitive and sensory impairments, communication disorders, visual disturbances, behavioral problems, or even fatal; and

Whereas,

One of the most effective treatments for Moyamoya disease is a surgical procedure pioneered at Boston Children's Hospital. With the support of the credit union community, Credit Unions Kids at Heart has raised more than \$1.4 million for ongoing research on this and other diagnostic tools and treatment strategies developed by Dr. Edward Smith, an internationally-recognized expert on cerebrovascular diseases, who runs the leading center in the US for diagnostic, consultation, surgical, and follow-up care services for children with Moyamoya; and

Whereas,

Today, the City of Springfield is proud to join with Credit Unions Kids at Heart and everyone who has been affected by this disease, by coming together to acknowledge and recognize the Commonwealth's first proclamation of Massachusetts Moyamoya Disease Awareness Day, as we all work to ensure children and adults receive an accurate diagnosis and treatment as quickly as possible. By understanding this disease and its warning signs, we can help stop pediatric strokes.



Therefore, I, Domenic J. Sarno, Mayor

of the City of Springfield, do hereby proclaim

Saturday, May 6, 2023

“Moyamoya Disease Awareness Day”

in the great City of Springfield and I strongly encourage all our citizens to join with me in acknowledging this event.

DOMENIC J. SARNO, MAYOR

*Good Health &
Good Bless -*