



PROCLAMATION

Tardive Dyskinesia Awareness Week

May 1 – 7, 2022

Whereas, many people with serious, chronic mental illness, such as schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, severe depression, or gastrointestinal disorders, require treatment with medications that work as dopamine receptor blocking agents (DRBAs), including antipsychotics; and

Whereas, while ongoing treatment with these medications can be very helpful, and even lifesaving, for many people, it can also lead to Tardive Dyskinesia (TD); and

Whereas, Tardive Dyskinesia is a movement disorder that is characterized by random, involuntary, and uncontrolled movements of different muscles in the face, trunk and extremities. TD can develop months, years, or decades after a person starts taking DRBAs and even after they have discontinued use of those medications; and

Whereas, it is estimated that over 600,000 Americans suffer from Tardive Dyskinesia and one in every four patients receiving long-term treatment with an antipsychotic medication will experience TD; and

Whereas, years of difficult and challenging research have resulted in recent scientific breakthroughs, with two new treatments for Tardive Dyskinesia approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration; and

Whereas, awareness in the public and medical community is critical as Tardive Dyskinesia is often unrecognized and patients suffering from the illness are commonly misdiagnosed;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Kenneth Weise, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Avondale, Arizona, do hereby proclaim the week of May 1 – 7, 2022 as Tardive Dyskinesia Awareness Week in Avondale and I encourage each resident to become informed and aware of Tardive Dyskinesia.

Mayor

Attest: _____

City Clerk