

**RESOLUTION NO. 030539**

**Declaring the month of May, 2003, as Better Hearing and Speech Month and commending the Scottish Rite Childhood Language Disorders Clinics in conjunction with Children's Mercy Hospitals and Clinics for the care and contribution they provide for children with speech, language and hearing disorders.**

WHEREAS, speech, language and hearing disorders are our country's most widespread handicapping conditions; and

WHEREAS, approximately 24 million Americans have speech, language or hearing impairments that affect their educational, vocational, personal and social functioning; and

WHEREAS, most people with communication disorders can be helped by speech-language pathologists and/or audiologists; and

WHEREAS, it is vital to the proper distribution of these services that the public be made aware of programs and medical attention that can improve the quality of life for those with communication disorders; and

WHEREAS, the Scottish Rite Childhood Language Disorders Clinics in conjunction with Children's Mercy Hospitals and Clinics provide those services without regard to race, creed, color, national origin or financial ability to pay; and

WHEREAS, Children's Mercy Hospital has been designated as one of the 10 best children's hospitals in the nation, and the Scottish Rite now has 165 clinics nationwide and 6 in Missouri; and

WHEREAS, "Better Hearing and Speech Month" is an annual campaign to inform the public about communication disorders and encourage early detection, proper treatment and prevention; NOW, THEREFORE,

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF KANSAS CITY:**

That the Mayor and Council hereby declare the month of May, 2003, as Better Hearing and Speech Month in Kansas City, Missouri, to facilitate a greater awareness of speech, language and hearing disorders and their treatment in our community; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this Resolution be spread upon the Minutes of the Council in testimony thereof and that copies hereof be presented to James D. Gibson, Chairman of the Scottish Rite Childhood Language Disorders Clinic Board, A. Freeman Stanfill, Personal Representative of the Scottish Rite SGIG of Missouri, and Dr. Cynthia Jacobsen, Director of the Speech and Hearing Unit of Children's Mercy Hospitals and Clinics with the appreciation of the Mayor, Council and citizens of Kansas City for their dedication in informing the public about communication disorders and then treating the problems.

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