

**CITY OF NIXA
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
STATE OF MISSOURI**

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), known by many as Lou Gehrig’s disease, is a progressive fatal neurodegenerative disease that attacks nerve cells in the brain and spinal cord, making even the simplest movements – walking, speaking, and gesturing – difficult; and

WHEREAS, approximately 5,000 people are diagnosed with ALS each year, with a new diagnosis every 90 minutes; and

WHEREAS, ALS strikes people regardless of race, ethnicity, or social status, and currently has no known cause, means of prevention, or cure, making diagnosis difficult. ALS is 100% fatal and has few treatments to improve quality of life; and

WHEREAS, finding the causes and cure for ALS will prevent the disease from robbing hundreds of thousands of Americans of their dignity and lives; and

WHEREAS, on average, patients diagnosed with ALS only survive two to five years from the time of diagnosis; and

WHEREAS, research indicates that military veterans are approximately 50% more likely to develop ALS as those who have not served in the military; and

WHEREAS, ALS Awareness Month raises awareness of the dire circumstances faced by those with ALS, acknowledges the terrible impact this diagnosis has on affect individuals, their families, and the community, and recognizes the importance of continued research to eradicate this disease; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jarad Giddens, Mayor of the City of Nixa, Missouri, do hereby proclaim May 2024 as

"ALS Awareness Month"

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the City of Nixa, this 13th day of May 2024.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk