

Municipality of Anchorage Alaska

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, one in every 2,500 pregnancies is diagnosed with a congenital diaphragmatic hernia (CDH); and

WHEREAS, since 2000 it is estimated that over 500,000 babies have been born with CDH, with only 50 percent of those babies surviving; and

WHEREAS, CDH is as common as spina bifida and cystic fibrosis, yet very few people know about it or are aware of it and 1,600 babies are born with CDH every year in the United States; and

WHEREAS, there are people living in Anchorage who have been diagnosed with and have survived CDH, and there are local families which have endured the horrible pain and grief associated with the loss of loved ones with CDH; and

WHEREAS, those with CDH often endure multiple surgeries and possible medical complication beyond their diagnosis that include heart defects, pulmonary complications, gastric and intestinal problems, developmental delays, and may require respiratory and medicinal support for years.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Dan Sullivan, Mayor of Anchorage, Alaska, do hereby proclaim April 19, 2015, as

Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia Day

IN Anchorage, and urge local residents to understand the importance of awareness of CDC which will help bring about acceptance and support for those suffering with this congenital defect and will help advocate for urgently needed medical research and advances.




MAYOR