

COUNTY OF



ALLEGHENY

RICH FITZGERALD  
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

## *Proclamation*

**WHEREAS**, Multiple Sclerosis (MS) is a chronic, often disabling disease that attacks the central nervous system, which is made up of the brain, spinal cord, and optic nerves; the progress, severity, and specific symptoms of MS are unpredictable and vary from one person to another; and

**WHEREAS**, the National MS Society has a mission to mobilize people and resources to drive research for a cure and to address the challenges of everyone affected by MS; the Society helps people affected by MS by funding cutting-edge research, driving change through advocacy, facilitating professional education, and providing services and programs that help people with MS and their families move their lives forward; and

**WHEREAS**, the Western Pennsylvania Chapter of the National MS Society was founded in 1956 and serves 26 counties; according to the Society, an estimated 28,000 Pennsylvanians are diagnosed with MS, and the disease generally strikes people between the ages of 20 and 50; and

**WHEREAS**, through the unmatched work of the Western Pennsylvania Chapter of the National MS Society, individuals and families affected by MS are able to be part of a loving community that strives to serve, support, and empower them; the Western Pennsylvania Chapter is an outlet and resource that continuously builds awareness and educates others about its cause; and

**WHEREAS**, Allegheny County is thankful for the Western Pennsylvania Chapter of the National MS Society and the support that it provides to our residents; we, along with the Society, are also hopeful that we will one day see “a world free of MS.”

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that I, Allegheny County Executive Rich Fitzgerald, by virtue of the authority vested in me, do hereby proclaim March 3 – 9, 2014 as “Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Week” in Allegheny County and in support of those individuals and families affected by MS, the Allegheny County Courthouse will be lit in orange in recognition of that designation.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the County of Allegheny to be affixed this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of March, 2014.

*Rich Fitzgerald*

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