RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING OCTOBER 23RD THROUGH 31ST AS RED RIBBON WEEK

WHEREAS, Red Ribbon Week, which will be celebrated across the nation the week of October 23, 2023, is the nation's oldest and largest drug prevention awareness program; and

WHEREAS, The City Council has been informed of this occasion by the Honorable Matthew J. O'Shea, Alderman of the 19th Ward; and

WHEREAS, The National Family Partnership started Red Ribbon Week after the death of Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Special Agent Enrique "Kiki" Camarena, who was brutally tortured and murdered in 1985 by drug traffickers he was investigating in Mexico – after his death, people started wearing red ribbons to honor Kiki's sacrifice; and

WHEREAS, Today, millions of people celebrate Red Ribbon Week by wearing red ribbons, participating in community anti-drug events, and pledging to live drug-free lives; and

WHEREAS, Alcohol and drug abuse affect individuals, families, and communities across the nation; and

WHEREAS, It is imperative that visible, unified efforts by community members be launched to prevent drug abuse; and

WHEREAS, Red Ribbon Week offers citizens the opportunity to demonstrate their commitment to drug-free lifestyles; and

WHEREAS, Businesses, government, law enforcement, media, health care providers, religious institutions, schools, and other community-based organizations will demonstrate their commitment to healthy, drug-free lifestyles by wearing red ribbons and participating in drug prevention activities; and

WHEREAS, The City of Chicago wishes to encourage participation in drug prevention education activities, not only during Red Ribbon Week, but also throughout the year, making a visible statement that we are strongly committed to a drug-free lifestyle; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, That we, the Mayor and Members of the City Council of the City of Chicago, gathered here this thirteenth day of September, 2023, do hereby recognize the week of October 23, 2023 as Red Ribbon Week, commend the National Family Partnership for their continued service, and encourage all residents to participate in drug prevention education.

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MATTHEW J. O'SHEA Alderman, 19th Ward