



# Proclamation

*WHEREAS, each year, the Lupus Foundation of America designates May as National Lupus Awareness Month to show support for the estimated 1.5 million Americans who have Lupus, and*

*WHEREAS, Lupus is an unpredictable and misunderstood autoimmune disease that ravages different parts of the body. It is difficult to diagnose, hard to live with, and a challenge to treat, and*

*WHEREAS, Lupus can affect any part of the body, including the skin, lungs, heart, kidneys, and brain. No organ is spared. The disease can cause seizures, strokes, heart attacks, miscarriages, and organ failure, and*

*WHEREAS, Lupus can be particularly difficult to diagnose because its symptoms are similar to those of many other illnesses, and major gaps exist in understanding the causes and consequences of Lupus. More than half of all people with Lupus take four or more years and visit three or more doctors before obtaining a correct diagnosis, and*

*WHEREAS, while Lupus strikes mostly women of childbearing age, no one is safe from Lupus. African Americans, Hispanics/Latinos, Asians and Native Americans are two to three times more likely to develop Lupus - a disparity that remains unexplained, and*

*WHEREAS, 120,000 citizens diagnosed in Texas are affected by Lupus.*

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ron Jensen, Mayor of the City of Grand Prairie, and on behalf of the entire City Council, do hereby proclaim the month of May 2016 as*

## **LUPUS AWARENESS MONTH**

*in the City of Grand Prairie and urge our citizens to observe this month by educating themselves of the symptoms and impact of Lupus, and to join with the Lone Star Chapter of the Lupus Foundation of America in supporting programs of research, education and community service.*

**WITNESS MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF THE CITY OF GRAND PRAIRIE, TEXAS, ON THIS 17<sup>th</sup> DAY OF MAY 2016.**

  
Ron Jensen, Mayor