Proclamation
Chiari Malformation Awareness Month
September 2016

WHEREAS, Chiari Malformation (CM) is a serious neurological disorder affecting well over 300,000 people in the United States, first identified by Austrian pathologist Professor Hans Chiari in the 1890's and categorized in order of severity: CM types I, II, III and IV; and

WHEREAS, Chiari Malformations are defects in the cerebellum, the part of the brain that controls balance. This creates pressure on the cerebellum and brain stem and may block the normal flow of cerebral spinal fluid to and from the brain; and

WHEREAS, the cause of Chiari Malformation is unknown, but scientists believe it is either a congenital condition caused by exposure to harmful substances during fetal development or that it can be a genetic condition, as it may appear in more than one family member; and

WHEREAS, symptoms usually appear during adolescence or early adulthood and can include severe head and neck pain, vertigo, muscle weakness, balance problems, blurred vision or double vision, difficulty swallowing and sleep apnea; and

WHEREAS, the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke of the National Institutes of Health is conducting research to find alternative surgical options and identify the cause of the malformation's to create improved treatment and prevention plans.

THEREFORE, be it resolved that I, J.C. Cook, III, Mayor of the City of Clemson, South Carolina, do hereby proclaim the month of September 2016, as "CHIARI MALFORMATION AWARENESS MONTH".

FURTHERMORE, I encourage all citizens to participate in the annual Conquer Chiari Walk Across America to be held in Clemson, South Carolina; and other awareness events planned during the month.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and have caused the great seal of the City to be affixed this 1st day of September, 2016.

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J.C. Cook, III, Mayor

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Beverly A. Coleman, C.M.C.