



LAGOS STATE GOVERNMENT



LASODA

LAGOS STATE OFFICE FOR
DISABILITY AFFAIRS

PROCLAMATION OF THE LAGOS STATE GOVERNMENT'S RECOGNITION OF AND SUPPORT FOR THE GLOBAL USHER SYNDROME AWARENESS DAY 2024

As Usher Syndrome is a rare genetic disorder and the leading cause of combined deafness and blindness (deaf-blindness) in individuals worldwide;

As millions of people are affected by this genetic disorder worldwide, with the larger incidence occurring in the developing nations of Africa and Asia as a result of mass ignorance and a severe lack of genetic testing and counseling facilities; As this mass ignorance and severe lack of technical know-how and necessary equipment has resulted in a noticeable rise in the incidence of the condition in the regions of Africa and Asia;

As this preventable condition currently has no known cure and affects three major senses in a person's body- hearing, vision and balance; and a large number of the affected individuals end up with total blindness alongside varying degrees of hearing loss or total deafness; As Usher Syndrome results in severe difficulties which impacts the health, academic and general wellbeing of the affected individuals;

As the urgent need to empower the people about this condition for the benefit of generations yet unborn and to ensure the welfare of individuals with Usher Syndrome/Deafblindness in the society has led the Usher Syndrome Community to unite around the world to spread public awareness about the condition;

As for this reason, the Usher Syndrome community has advocated for the third Saturday in September every year as an international day on which all nations and states can join efforts to create awareness about the condition with the aim of halting its advent and possibly making it history, thereby reducing the future incidence of deaf-blindness worldwide;

I, therefore, by the power and authority conferred upon me as the General Manager of the Lagos State Office for Disability Affairs, for and on behalf of the Office hereby proclaim the Lagos State Office for

Disability Affairs recognition of and full support for the Global Usher Syndrome Awareness Day 2024- Saturday 21st September 2024, and the worldwide efforts to heighten public awareness about the condition with the aim of reducing its incidence and possibly making it history. We wish to indicate our recognition of and full support for this annual observance going forward.

In the light of this, I enjoin the noble people of the State and the nation as a whole to avail themselves of the knowledge of Usher Syndrome made available for the benefit of all and sundry. and to join hands to safeguard the health and general wellbeing of generations yet unborn, as well as to work for the academic, health and all-round inclusion of affected citizens with Deaf-blindness in the society.



Adenike Oyetunde-Lawal

FOR: The Lagos State Office For Disability Affairs

Dated this day 20th September 2024