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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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City of Warren Proclaims Ehlers-Danlos Syndromes Awareness Day

WARREN, MI — By official proclamation from Mayor Lori M. Stone, the City of Warren has designated May 1, 2026, as Ehlers-Danlos Syndromes Awareness Day, raising awareness of Ehlers-Danlos syndromes (EDS) and reaffirming the City's commitment to supporting the health and well-being of all residents.

Ehlers-Danlos syndromes are a group of inherited connective tissue disorders that affect the body's collagen, which helps support the skin, joints, blood vessels, and organs. For many individuals, EDS can cause chronic pain, frequent joint dislocations, extreme fatigue, fragile skin, and other serious health complications. For example, a person with EDS may experience joints that easily slip out of place during everyday activities such as walking, lifting objects, or even writing.

Because symptoms can vary widely and are often misunderstood, many individuals living with Ehlers-Danlos syndromes are underdiagnosed or misdiagnosed, resulting in delayed treatment and unnecessary suffering.

Melissa Sexton, Miss Sand Dune within the Miss America Organization, received the proclamation from Mayor Stone on May 14. Sexton, who is pursuing a career in nursing, lives with Ehlers-Danlos syndrome herself and is using her platform to raise awareness, encourage education, and advocate for individuals and families affected by the condition.

Through both her personal experience and advocacy efforts, Sexton is helping bring greater visibility and understanding to a condition that is often overlooked despite its significant impact on daily life.

“Through this proclamation, the City of Warren encourages all residents to join efforts to raise awareness, support those affected, and promote research and education related to Ehlers-Danlos syndromes,” said Mayor Stone.

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