

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the Buddy Walk was developed by the National Down Syndrome Society in 1995 to bring together a wide range of concerned individuals reaching out to family, friends, teachers, co-workers, professionals, and leaders in the community to promote awareness and inclusion for people with Down Syndrome and to raise funds for education, research and advocacy programs; and

WHEREAS, the Buddy Walk is from coast to coast and abroad, hundreds of thousands of people walk in the Buddy Walk each year. The goal of the Buddy Walk is to promote understanding and acceptance of people with Down syndrome; and

WHEREAS, the Arc of New Mexico's mission is to improve the quality of life for individuals with disabilities of all ages by advocating for equal opportunities and choices in where and how they learn, live, work, play and socialize. The Arc of New Mexico promotes self-determination, healthy families, effective support systems and partnership; and

WHEREAS, the Arc's Family Support Network of Silver City and Deming are families working and planning together to host the **2nd Annual Buddy Walk** to celebrate individuals with Down syndrome during the month of October, "Disability Awareness Month", on Saturday, October 21, 2017 at Gough Park in Silver City, New Mexico;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ken Ladner, Mayor of the Town of Silver City, do hereby proclaim October 15 through October 21, 2017 as:

"BUDDY WALK WEEK"

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused this official seal of the Town of Silver City to be affixed this 10th day of October, 2017.

(Seal)

Ken Ladner, Mayor

Attest:

Ann L. Mackie, Town Clerk