

## 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 Knight of Columbus are families working and planning together to host the **Annual Buddy Walk** to celebrate individuals with Down syndrome during the month of September, on Saturday, September 23, 2023 at Gough Park in Silver City, New Mexico;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Ken Ladner, Mayor of the Town of Silver City, do hereby proclaim September 12, 2023 through September 23, 2023 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 12th day of September, 2023.

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Ken Ladner, Mayor

Attest:

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Alfred Sedillo, Town Clerk