

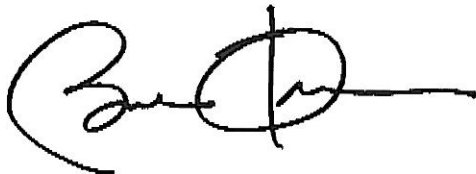
THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

April 2, 2010

I am pleased to join all those celebrating World Autism Awareness Day. On this occasion, we acknowledge and applaud the many contributions of individuals on the autism spectrum and their families.

We have made great strides, but challenges and barriers still remain for individuals on the autism spectrum and their loved ones. That is why my Administration has expanded investments in autism research, detection, and innovative treatments—from early intervention for children and coordinated family services to improved support for adults. With each new policy that breaks these barriers, and with each attitude that is reshaped, we approach a world free from discrimination where all can achieve their fullest potential.

As we mark World Autism Awareness Day and recommit to supporting persons on the autism spectrum and their families, I wish you all the best.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Barack Obama", written in a cursive style. The signature is positioned at the bottom center of the page.