



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

**Seton Hall
University**

South Orange, New Jersey 07079

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Duchenne muscular dystrophy (Duchenne) is the most common fatal genetic disorder diagnosed in childhood, affecting approximately one in every 5,000 live male births each year.

WHEREAS, the Duchenne gene is found on the X-chromosome, it primarily affects boys; however, it occurs across all races and cultures.

WHEREAS, Duchenne results in progressive loss of strength and is caused by a mutation in the gene that encodes for dystrophin. Because dystrophin is absent, the muscle cells are easily damaged. The progressive muscle weakness leads to serious medical problems, particularly issues relating to the heart and lungs. People with Duchenne typically live into their late twenties.

WHEREAS, Duchenne can be passed from parent to child, but approximately 35% of cases occur because of a random spontaneous mutation. In other words, it can affect anyone. Although there are medical treatments that may help slow its progression, there is currently no cure for Duchenne.

WHEREAS, because it is a rare disease, one of our greatest tools in the fight to end Duchenne is raising awareness.

WHEREAS, on September 7, 2017 the fifth World Duchenne Awareness Day will take place. Duchenne organizations around the world will raise awareness for all people living with Duchenne muscular dystrophy.

THEREFORE, I, Mary J. Meehan, Ph.D., Interim President of Seton Hall University, do hereby proclaim September 7, 2017 to be World Duchenne Awareness Day at Seton Hall University and encourage members of the Seton Hall University community to increase their understanding and awareness of Duchenne muscular dystrophy.

BE IT PROCALIMED, that I set my hand to paper on this fifth day of September 2017 at Seton Hall University.

Mary J. Meehan, Ph.D.
Interim President