



*City of Westfield*  
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR



59 Court Street Suite 200  
Westfield, MA 01085  
413-572-6201  
Mayor Michael McCabe

---

For Immediate Release:

September 19, 2022

***City Hall will “Light it Up Purple” September 22-26 in honor of Chiari Malformation Awareness.***

Chiari Malformation is a serious neurological disorder where the bottom part of the brain, the cerebellum, descends out of the skull and crowds the spinal cord, putting pressure on both the brain and spine causing many symptoms including chronic headaches, neck pain, hearing or balance problems, muscle weakness or numbness, and many others. Currently, one out of one thousand people suffer from this disorder.

September is Chiari Awareness Month, and in hopes to spread awareness of this neurological disorder, City Hall will shine purple lights upon its façade on the evenings of September 22-26. While the whole of September is known as Chiari Malformation month, this weekend is particularly important as it kicks off the 15<sup>th</sup> annual “Conquer Chiari Walk Across America” series of local awareness walks held across the country on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> weekend of September. The Massachusetts walk is set for Saturday September 24<sup>th</sup> in Auburn MA. For more information about the local walk, please log onto <https://www.conquerchiari.org/index.asp> To learn more about Chiari Malformation, its symptoms and treatments, please talk with your health professional.