Alachua County Florida A Proclamation

Declaring July 2023, as "Disability Awareness Month" in Alachua County, Florida

- **Whereas**, a nationwide campaign conducted in July 2023 will mark the 33rd anniversary of the enactment of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the 48th anniversary of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), and the 50th anniversary of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 which was the first federal civil rights law providing protection for people with disabilities; and
- **Whereas,** the ADA has expanded opportunities for Americans with disabilities by reducing barriers, changing perceptions, and increasing full participation in community life. However, the full promise of the ADA will only be reached if we remain committed to continue our efforts to fully implement equal opportunities in employment, housing, public accommodations, and education for people with disabilities; and
- **Whereas**, we recognize that, at some time in our lives, most in our society will have limitations of some kind, be they physical, mental, or emotional or educational; and we have long supported the Nation's commitment to equality of opportunity, full participation, independent living, and economic self-sufficiency for all people with disabilities; and
- **Whereas,** on the 33rd anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act, we celebrate and recognize the progress that has been made by reaffirming the principles of equality and inclusion and recommitting our efforts to ensure equal opportunity, equal access for individuals with disabilities; and
- **Whereas**, Alachua County government and Citizens Disability Advisory Committee join the nation in celebrating the inclusion and participation of people with disabilities in all aspects of civic and community life; and in partnership with the City of Gainesville will co-sponsor a Disability Awareness Expo on Wednesday, July 26, 2023, from 10:00am 2:00pm at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Center.

IPoto, therefore, through the authority vested in me by the Board of County Commissioners of the Alachua County, Florida, I do hereby proclaim July 2023, as "Disability Awareness Month" in Alachua County, Florida.

Duly proclaimed this 11th day of July, A.D., 2023.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ALACHUA COUNTY FLORIDA

Ву:_____

Anna Prizzia, Chair

ATTEST:

J.K. "Jess" Irby, Esq.