

Alachua County Florida

A Proclamation

Declaring July 2024 as “Disability Awareness Month” in Alachua County, Florida

Whereas, a nationwide campaign conducted in July 2024 will mark the 34th anniversary of the enactment of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the 49th anniversary of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), and the 51st anniversary of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 which was the first law to provide equal access by prohibiting federal agencies from discriminating against individuals with disabilities under Section 501 and 503; and

Whereas, the ADA has expanded opportunities for Americans with disabilities by reducing barriers and 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 continuing our efforts to fully implement ADA 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 34th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act, we celebrate and recognize the progress that has been made by reaffirming the principals of equality and inclusion and recommitting our efforts to ensure equal access, equal opportunity for individuals with disabilities; and

Whereas, Alachua County government and the Citizens Disability Advisory Committee join the nation in celebrating thirty-four years of progress in access and inclusion for all citizens and in partnership with the City of Gainesville will co-sponsor a Disability Awareness Expo on Wednesday, July 24, 2024 at the Martin Luther King Center. Participating vendors include government agencies and community organizations that offer local support services, assistive equipment and devices, vocational training, peer support, and information on service dogs and emotional support animals.

Now, therefore, through the authority vested in me by the Board of County Commissioners of Alachua County, Florida, I do hereby proclaim July 2024 as “Disability Awareness Month” in Alachua County, Florida.

Duly proclaimed this 9th day of July, A.D., 2024.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF ALACHUA COUNTY FLORIDA

By: _____
Mary C. Alford, Chair

ATTEST:

J.K. “Jess” Irby, Esq.