

Alachua County Florida

A Proclamation

**Declaring November 2024 as “Epilepsy Awareness Month”
in Alachua County, Florida**

- Whereas, Epilepsy is a brain disorder characterized by recurrent and unprovoked seizures that can affect anyone, at any age, at any time; and*
- Whereas, epilepsy is a spectrum disease comprised of many diagnoses and experiences and includes a wide range of seizure types, comorbidities, control, severity, and outcomes varying from person-to-person; and*
- Whereas, epilepsy is the fourth most common neurological disorder; approximately 3.4 million people in the United States live with active epilepsy and people with epilepsy need access to affordable, comprehensive, physician-directed and person-centered healthcare; and*
- Whereas, 426,000 Floridians live with epilepsy, including 88,000 children in Florida, and greater education and improved access to care is needed in schools, which can be accomplished by passing a Seizure Safe Schools legislation nationwide; and*
- Whereas, while protections exist in the Americans with Disabilities Act and related civil rights laws, people with epilepsy still encounter discrimination in areas including employment, education, and housing; and*
- Whereas, Epilepsy Awareness Month is a nationwide effort in November of the Epilepsy Foundation and Epilepsy Alliance Florida to raise awareness and change the conversation around epilepsy, seizures, and side effects, as well as to improve and save lives through care, advocacy, research and new therapies, and public health and education; and*
- Whereas, through action together on Epilepsy Awareness Month and during other awareness initiatives, including International Epilepsy Day, Epilepsy Awareness Day, and Brain Awareness Week - and any day of the year - it is important to increase public knowledge about epilepsy and seizure first aid and change the way people think about them.*

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

Duly proclaimed this 12th day of November, A.D., 2024.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF ALACHUA COUNTY FLORIDA

By: _____
Chair

ATTEST:

J.K. “Jess” Irby, Esq.