

Alachua County Florida

A Proclamation

Declaring July 2025, as “Disability Awareness Month” in Alachua County, Florida

Whereas, a nationwide campaign conducted in July 2025 will mark the 35th anniversary of the enactment of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the 50th anniversary of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), and the 52nd 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; and

Whereas, the ADA has expanded opportunities for Americans with disabilities by reducing barriers, changing perceptions and increasing full participation in employment, housing, public accommodations, and education for people with disabilities; and

Whereas, on the 35th 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 access, equal opportunity for individuals with disabilities; and

Whereas, Alachua County government and Citizens Disability Advisory Committee join the nation in celebrating thirty-five 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 23, 2025, at the Martin Luther King Center. Participating vendors include public agencies, private businesses and community organizations that offer local support services, assistive equipment and devices, vocational training, and peer support; and

Whereas October 2025 will mark the 80th anniversary of National Disability Employment Awareness Month. Alachua County and the Citizens Advisory Committee will sponsor a Disability-Friendly Employer Award in October to recognize local employers who demonstrate commitment to hire, support and advance individuals with disabilities.

Now, therefore, through the authority vested in me by the Board of County Commissioners of Alachua County, Florida, I do hereby proclaim July 2025, as “Disability Awareness Month” in Alachua County, Florida.

Duly proclaimed this 8th day of July, A.D., 2025.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF ALACHUA COUNTY FLORIDA

By: _____
Charles S. Chestnut, IV, Chair

ATTEST:

J.K. “Jess” Irby, Esq.