

**WHEREAS**, the City of Coconut Creek Commission is committed to raising awareness about suicide prevention in the City of Coconut Creek and Broward County; and

**WHEREAS**, the month of September is nationally recognized as *Suicide Prevention Awareness Month*; and

**WHEREAS**, suicide is a national epidemic costing the lives of over 40,000 Americans, including 6,000 Veterans, each year and is a leading cause of death for first responders and the second leading cause of death for young people; and

**WHEREAS**, in Florida, suicides far outnumber homicides and firearms are the leading and most lethal method of suicide; and

**WHEREAS**, the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Children's Hospital Association, and the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry have declared a national emergency in child mental health; and

**WHEREAS**, it is critical to recognize the signs of depression that may lead to thoughts of suicide, including: speaking about wanting to die, feelings of isolation or hopelessness, increased use of drugs or alcohol, and severe mood swings; and

**WHEREAS**, it is critical to recognize the best methods to prevent suicide when a person is in crisis, including: asking if the person is thinking of taking their life; keeping them safe and removing access to lethal means, and getting them professional help. In Florida, dial 2-1-1 or call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-8255 or text 74174; and

**WHEREAS**, the Florida Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics has provided significant leadership in suicide prevention through community education and programing; and

**WHEREAS**, the League of Women Voters of Broward County has provided significant leadership in suicide prevention through community education and creation of their *Lock It Up!* Gun Safety Program; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the City Commission of the City of Coconut Creek, Florida, hereby proclaims September 2022, as

***“SUICIDE PREVENTION AWARENESS MONTH”***

in support of community education programs provided by leading agencies, such as the League of Women Voters of Broward County and the American Academy of Pediatrics, to raise awareness of the signs that may lead to suicide and actions to take to help prevent suicide.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto  
set our hands and caused the seal of the  
City of Coconut Creek to be affixed  
this 25<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2022.**