

**WHEREAS**, the Coconut Creek City 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 45,000 Americans, including more than 6,000 Veterans each year; and

**WHEREAS**, suicide is the second leading cause of death for children, adolescents, and young adults ages 10 to 24 years; 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 988 or call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-8255 or text 741741; 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 2023 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 24<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2023.**