



Autism Society Florida

February 29, 2024

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Lenore Thomas
Parks and Recreation Superintendent
City of Coconut Creek

Dear Ms. Thomas,

It is with great pride that I write you this letter today to declare that the City of Coconut Creek has met the requirements, as set forth by the Autism Society of Florida, to become an "Autism Friendly Community". At least 80% of City of Coconut Creek personnel in the Parks and Recreation Department, Fire Rescue, Police and Police Services Departments have completed in-person Autism Awareness training.

Our lead trainer, Margi Hedelund, tells me your staff was both engaging and welcoming to the Autism Society of Florida. I had the opportunity to be a part of one of her training courses at your Police Department and I'd like to personally thank you for taking steps to ensure your community is welcoming and safe for individuals with Autism and their families.

We are also grateful for volunteers like Mrs. Hedelund who make this training possible not only for Broward County but for the entire state of Florida. I look forward to the City's proclamation on April 11, 2024 where will be presenting the City with a plaque of recognition and logos that can be used to show off this great accomplishment by the City of Coconut Creek.

Sincerely,

Stacey Hoaglund

President

Autism Society of Florida