

WHEREAS, Autism Acceptance Month is observed annually in April to increase understanding and acceptance of people with autism, promoting supportive environments in schools, workplaces, and public spaces; and

WHEREAS, Autism, or Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), is a neurological and developmental disorder that affects how people interact with others, communicate, learn, and behave; and

WHEREAS, the prevalence of ASD is increasing, affecting 1 in every 31 children born in this country; and

WHEREAS, the City of Coconut Creek is committed to help improve the lives of all individuals in the community we serve; and

WHEREAS, through this commitment, the City strives to provide a variety of programs and services that help our neurodiverse community members to thrive, including recreational programming and partnerships offered through the Parks and Recreation Department, training for Police Department sworn and civilian personnel, and the Police Department's Friend Responders Program; and

WHEREAS, the Friend Responders Program was recently recognized as the 2025 Rocky Pomerance Law Enforcement Excellence Award Winner for innovation in community policing; and

WHEREAS, this Autism Acceptance Month is an important opportunity to educate, enhance understanding, and highlight resources available to community members with autism.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Commission of the City of Coconut Creek, Florida, hereby proclaims the month of April 2026 as

“AUTISM ACCEPTANCE MONTH”

to encourage a community spirit that values, includes, and celebrates all kinds of minds and to help all those with autism achieve the highest quality of life.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto
set our hands and caused the seal of the
City of Coconut Creek to be affixed
this 23rd day of April, 2026.**