

WHEREAS,

the American Red Cross saw a record-breaking year in 2017 of challenging domestic and international response efforts. Through the support of its volunteers, in just 45 days, the Red Cross responded to six of the largest and most complex disasters of 2017 including back-to-back hurricanes, the deadliest week of wildfires in California history, and the horrific mass shooting in Las Vegas. In addition, the Red Cross responded to nearly 50,000 home fires in 2017, providing casework assistance to help 76,000 families recover.

WHEREAS,

in St. Lucie County the Red Cross has a long history of helping our neighbors in need. Florida's Coast to Heartland Chapter assisted with 107 local disasters in the past fiscal year alone, including 50 in St. Lucie County. They installed 838 smoke alarms and reached 3,910 people with fire safety information. They reached 686 students and their families with preparedness information through our Pillowcase Project. In our area, the Red Cross handles an average of 210 emergency military calls every year.

WHEREAS,

march is American Red Cross Month, a special time to recognize and thank the Red Cross volunteers and donors who give of their time and resources to help members of the community. The Red Cross depends on these local heroes to deliver help and hope during a disaster. We applaud our heroes here in St. Lucie County who give of themselves to assist their neighbors when they need a helping hand.

WHEREAS,

across the country and around the world, the American Red Cross responds to disasters big and small. It collects about 40 percent of the nation's blood supply; provides 24-hour support to military members, veterans and their families; teaches millions lifesaving skills such as lifeguarding and CPR; and through its Restoring Family Links program, connects family members separated by crisis, conflict or migration

WHEREAS,

we dedicate the month of March to all those who support the American Red Cross mission to prevent and alleviate human suffering in the face of emergencies. Our community depends on the American Red Cross, which relies on donations of time, money and blood to fulfill its humanitarian mission.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Linda Hudson, Mayor of the City of Fort Pierce, Florida, do hereby proclaim March 2018 as:

American Red Cross Month

and encourage all Americans to support this organization and its noble humanitarian mission.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Official Seal of the City of Fort Pierce, Florida, to be affixed this 5th day of March, 2018.

MAYOR/COMMISSIONER