

***WHEREAS,*** the Guardian ad Litem Program speaks for the best interests of abused, abandoned and neglected children who are involved in the court system; and

***WHEREAS,*** volunteers from our community not only advocate for a child's best interest, but also serve as educational advocates and mentors; and

***WHEREAS,*** currently, more than 450 children in our community are victims who have endured abuse and are in need of a Guardian ad Litem to speak for their best interest; and

***WHEREAS,*** members of the Fort Pierce community are encouraged to join together throughout the month of April to raise awareness for those children who have fallen victim to abuse, neglect and abandonment; and

***WHEREAS,*** the Guardian ad Litem Program allows individuals from our community to join hands with government in order to give a representation to innocent children who are suffering through no fault of their own.

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

## ***Guardian ad Litem Month***

and urge all citizens to give of their time to make a difference in the lives of our most vulnerable children by volunteering with the Guardian ad Litem Program.

**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 16th day of April, 2018.

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**MAYOR COMMISSIONER**