

WHEREAS, responding to over 3 million requests for help since 1971, 2-1-1 HelpLine is a free, trusted, and confidential lifeline for people of all ages who are struggling, feeling overwhelmed, and don't know where to turn for help; and

WHEREAS, 2-1-1 HelpLine's highly trained staff handled 11,000 requests for help from St. Lucie County residents during its fiscal year with over 3,200 residents who requested help with their mental health and addictions, and of these 182 people were suicidal or had suicide concerns. 2-1-1 HelpLine provides crisis support, suicide prevention and help finding community resources and services 24/7. Additionally, 2-1-1 provides programming to support our most vulnerable populations. We proudly say "Help Starts Here" whether in times of personal struggle or disaster we are here to help everyone, especially when there may be no one else to answer the call and

WHEREAS, over the last year this has never been proven truer, as inquires to our helpline and website have doubled and at points tripled from years past due to the COVID-19 pandemic, with suicidal calls increasing; and

WHEREAS, 2-1-1 HelpLine is that central access point providing individuals and families with guidance and crisis support via telephone or text any time of day or night; and

WHEREAS, 2-1-1 HelpLine is also the regional responder for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (1-800-273-TALK). 2-1-1 staff work 24 hours a day to prevent suicide loss of life with a daily average of 126 mental health/crisis calls & contacts with 10 callers with concerns of suicide daily.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Linda Hudson, Mayor of the City of Fort Pierce, Florida, do hereby extend recognition to

2-1-1 Helpline

for celebrating 50 years of service, and front-line Suicide Prevention and urge all citizens to be aware of the only telephone number they need to know to access information on 1600 agency providers with wide-ranging programs and services throughout our area.

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 7th day of September 2021.

MAYOR/COMMISSIONER