



CITY OF FORT PIERCE, FLORIDA



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, trauma is any experience or event, real or perceived, that results in lasting adverse effects and impacts an individual's ability to overall well-being, leaving them stuck in survival mode. Trauma is the gateway drug.

WHEREAS, invest in Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) education for our community residents and stakeholders. ACEs science shows the link between childhood trauma exposure from abuse, neglect, and household dysfunction and adverse adult outcomes such as poverty, poor health, substance misuse, and mental illness. Adults with 4 or more ACEs have 3 times the rates of lung diseases, 2 times the rates of liver disease, 5 times more likely to develop depression, 11 times the rates of IV abuses, and 14 times the rates of suicide attempts.

WHEREAS, there are approximately 35 million child victims of trauma before the age of 18. Based on a 2020 report from the Florida Youth Substance Abuse Survey 62.5% of High School Student in St Lucie County reported they had at least one ACE.

WHEREAS, commit to moving from Trauma-Informed to Healing Centered to eliminate the underlying issues that causes trauma exposure. Healing Centered Engagement is strength based, focusing on what is good and right about an individual to address the collective impact of trauma.

WHEREAS, education is important to foster a healthy village for every child. To achieve that village, all businesses, schools, government agency, health care provider, faith-based organization, nonprofit, and resident must be able to meaningfully engage in growing their understanding of ACEs and how to heal them for our collective benefit.

WHEREAS, the City of Fort Pierce emphasizes the need for increased education, access, and culturally appropriate services for residents to build positive mental health, educational, professional, and business outcomes.

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

Trauma-Informed Care Month

in the City of Fort Pierce and encourage our citizens to join with their communities in observance of Trauma-Informed Care Month.

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 May 2022.

MAYOR/COMMISSIONER

