

WHEREAS, there is a proven connection between good mental health and overall personal health. However, only one out of two people with a serious form of mental illness seeks treatment. Additionally, a person's surroundings can impact whether, how, and when their needs are met, which in turn affects their mental health; and

WHEREAS, People with mental illnesses can recover when they receive the necessary services and support within their communities. Research shows that personal contact with someone who has a mental illness is the most effective way to reduce stigma and alleviate fears of discrimination; and

WHEREAS, Helping People Succeed has a team of highly skilled therapists who provide specialized outpatient mental health counseling for both children and adults. With early and effective interventions, individuals experiencing mental health conditions can recover and lead full, productive lives, making important contributions to their families and communities; and

WHEREAS, each business, school, government agency, health care provider, organization, and citizen share the burden of mental health problems and has a responsibility to promote mental wellness and support prevention efforts; and

WHEREAS, Helping People Succeed has been providing services to the community for over six decades. Through its diversified, effective program services and initiatives, hundreds of the most vulnerable local children, families, and adults have been able to transform their lives through education, counseling, training, and employment

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

Mental Health Awareness Month

in the City of Fort Pierce and encourage citizens, government agencies, public and private institutions, businesses, and schools to renew our community's commitment to increasing awareness and understanding of mental illnesses, reducing stigma and discrimination, and promoting accessible and appropriate services for all individuals with mental illnesses.

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 19th day of May 2025.

MAYOR/COMMISSIONER