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## DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AWARENESS MONTH" MARCH 2017

**WHEREAS,** March has been recognized as National Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month since 1987, when President Ronald Reagan called upon Americans to provide "our fellow citizens with such disabilities both encouragement and the opportunities they need to lead productive lives and to achieve their full potential; and

**WHEREAS,** today Loveland Village and other organizations exist solely to provide critical support and care for people with developmental disabilities to attain self-sufficiency, and this support includes, but is not limited to, employment, education, community inclusion, healthcare and living accommodations; and

**WHEREAS,** "Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month" also recognizes Florida's public policy accomplishments concerning persons with disabilities, as well as identifying the improvements to public policy that are needed to ensure that all of Florida's citizens with developmental disabilities have the capacity to lead full, productive and engaged lives; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary and appropriate that local communities in Florida such as North Port, support the mission and purpose of "Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month" and encourage their citizens to recognize and respect this important commemoration;

*NOW*, *THEREFORE*, WE, the City Commission of the City of North Port, Florida, do hereby recognize March as:

## "DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AWARENESS MONTH"

*IN WITNESS WHEREOF*, WE have hereunto set our hands and seal of the City of North Port, Florida, this 2nd day of March, 2017.

CITY OF NORTH PORT, FLORIDA

ATTEST:

City Clerk

Patsy C. Adkins, MMC

Mayor Linda M. Yates

Vanessa Carusone, Vice-Mayor

Christopher Hanks, Commissioner

Debbie McDowell, Commissioner