

# PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, Children First was founded in 1961 in Sarasota County and has spent 65 years strengthening children and families by improving the quality of their lives through a comprehensive approach to development, education, health, and well-being; and

**WHEREAS**, Children First serves as the exclusive Head Start and Early Head Start provider for Sarasota County, delivering high-quality early childhood education, health care, nutrition, and family strengthening services to children from birth to five and their families, and is ranked in the top 1% of more than 1,600 Head Start programs nationwide; and

**WHEREAS**, Children First continues to be recognized for excellence and impact, including being named a five-time National Head Start Association Program of Excellence and a 2026 Top Workplace USA by USA TODAY, reflecting its enduring commitment to both the community it serves and the dedicated professionals who carry out its mission.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, we, the City Commission of the City of North Port, Florida, do hereby proclaim May 2026 as

## “CHILDREN FIRST 65TH ANNIVERSARY MONTH”

and encourages all residents to recognize and celebrate the organization’s lasting impact on children, families, and the future of our community.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, we have hereunto set our hands and Seal of the City of North Port, Florida, to be affixed this 4th day of June 2026.

### CITY OF NORTH PORT, FLORIDA

\_\_\_\_\_  
Pete Emrich, Mayor

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Barbara Langdon, Vice-Mayor

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David Duval, Commissioner



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Phil Stokes, Commissioner

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Demetrius Petrow, Commissioner

### ATTEST

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Heather Faust, City Clerk