

# PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, established in 1965, Head Start is a national, federally funded early childhood development program that serves children and families and whose purpose is to help children achieve their full potential; and

**WHEREAS**, Head Start provides comprehensive health, nutritional, educational, social services, family and community development and meaningful parent involvement; and

**WHEREAS**, Head Start is committed to the development of each child and provides preventative and early intervention services to children and families regardless of their economic status; and

**WHEREAS**, Children First, Inc. is the exclusive provider of Head Start and Early Head Start services for Sarasota County. Founded in 1961 by the Junior Welfare League, our agency operates at multiple sites throughout Sarasota, Venice, and North Port to best meet the needs of the children and families we serve; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1994, our agency was awarded the status of Head Start grantee for Sarasota County serving approximately 180 preschoolers. Children First became the appointed Early Head Start grantee for Sarasota County in 1998; and

**WHEREAS**, every October, we celebrate Head Start's historical roots, current impact, and lasting legacy. Head Start Awareness Month is an opportunity to draw attention to the work Head Start does. We focus on the challenges, the opportunities, and the high-quality services that make Head Start and Early Head Start a leader in early childhood education.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, we, the City Commission of the City of North Port, Florida, do hereby proclaim October 2024, as

## “National Head Start Awareness Month”

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, we have hereunto set our hands and Seal of the City of North Port, Florida, to be affixed this 3rd day of October 2024.

### CITY OF NORTH PORT, FLORIDA

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Alice White, Mayor

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Phil Stokes, Vice-Mayor

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Debbie McDowell, Commissioner



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Barbara Langdon, Commissioner

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Pete Emrich, Commissioner

**ATTEST**

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Heather Faust, City Clerk