

**PROCLAMATION  
OF THE  
SEMINOLE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
PROCLAIMING SEPTEMBER 10, 2025 AS  
RUNWAY TO HOPE DAY  
IN SEMINOLE COUNTY, FLORIDA**

***WHEREAS**, childhood cancer is the leading cause of death by disease in children. Across the United States, 46 children per day, or 16,790 children per year, are diagnosed with cancer, and 1 in 285 children will be diagnosed with cancer by their 20th birthday; and*

***WHEREAS**, the financial burden of medical expenses and other bills can overwhelm parents and children alike, exacerbating the stress and hardships faced by these families, where 1 in 5 families are living in poverty at the time of their child's diagnosis, and 1 in 3 families experience work disruption, often requiring a parent to quit their job to become a full-time caregiver, dramatically reducing the family's income; and*

***WHEREAS**, when a child is diagnosed with cancer, the entire family suffers, oftentimes leading to poorly developed interpersonal skills, feelings of isolation, and low self-esteem for the child diagnosed, and anxiety, depression, symptoms of PTSD, and distress for the parents and siblings; and*

***WHEREAS**, Runway to Hope's efforts of offering direct emergency financial assistance for basic necessity expenses to families in our community is incredibly impactful; and*

***WHEREAS**, Runway to Hope has implemented its Total Wellness Program, a comprehensive support system designed to address the holistic needs of families, in addition to the financial needs that come along with a pediatric cancer diagnosis; and*

***WHEREAS**, throughout the year, Runway to Hope offers volunteer opportunities and collaborates with local businesses, sponsors, and donors to foster partnerships within the community, creating a network of ongoing support and engagement; and*

***WHEREAS**, through these initiatives, Runway to Hope significantly enhances the well-being of pediatric cancer patients and their families, while fostering a supportive, engaged, and compassionate community; and*

***WHEREAS**, Seminole County recognizes and commends Runway to Hope for its unwavering commitment to supporting families and children in our region affected by pediatric cancer;*

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED** that we, the Seminole County Board of County Commissioners do hereby proclaim September 10, 2025 as*

***RUNWAY TO HOPE DAY***

*in Seminole County, Florida.*

***ADOPTED*** this 26<sup>th</sup> day of August 2025



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Jay Zembower, Chairman  
Seminole County, Board of County Commissioners