

**PROCLAMATION
OF THE
SEMINOLE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
PROCLAIMING APRIL 2025 AS
AUTISM ACCEPTANCE MONTH
IN SEMINOLE COUNTY, FL**

WHEREAS, Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is a complex developmental condition that affects an estimated 1 in 36 children in the United States, making it the fastest-growing developmental disability; and

WHEREAS, in the state of Florida, it is estimated that more than 36,000 students in public schools receive educational support under the autism eligibility category, highlighting the need for increased awareness, acceptance, and inclusive practices in education and community services; and

WHEREAS, early intervention, specialized education, and community support significantly improve outcomes for individuals on the autism spectrum, yet access to services remains a challenge for many families across Florida; and

WHEREAS, Autism Awareness and Acceptance Month, observed every April, serves to promote understanding, inclusion, and advocacy for autistic individuals, encouraging communities to foster environments where they can thrive; and

WHEREAS, organizations, educators, and advocates in Seminole County and throughout Florida work tirelessly to provide resources, research, and support to individuals with autism and their families, ensuring they receive the necessary tools to lead fulfilling and independent lives; and

WHEREAS, Seminole County recognizes the importance of celebrating neurodiversity, reducing stigma, and fostering an inclusive society where autistic individuals are valued for their unique strengths and contributions; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that we, the Board of County Commissioners of Seminole County, Florida, proclaim the month of April 2025 as

Autism Acceptance Month

in Seminole County, Florida and encourage residents to support individuals with autism, advocate for inclusive policies, and participate in local initiatives that promote acceptance and accessibility for all.

ADOPTED this 8th day of April, 2025.



**Jay Zembower, Chairman
Seminole County, Board of County Commissioners**