

PROCLAMATION

HONORING THE GIFFORD YOUTH ACHIEVEMENT CENTER, INC. FOR 20 YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE

WHEREAS, the Gifford Youth Achievement Center, Inc., a 501(c)3 agency with its primary purpose to enhance the academic achievement of children in Indian River County, has been serving the Gifford community and beyond for the last 20 years since it opened its doors on February 15, 1998; and,

WHEREAS, Mr. Danforth K. Richardson, Dr. A. Ronald Hudson, and Dr. William Nigh were founders of the Gifford Youth Achievement Center, Inc., with the support of the Progressive Civic League of Gifford, Florida, Inc., the Indian River County Board of County Commissioners, and other community leaders; and,

WHEREAS, Gifford Youth Achievement Center, Inc. has been the catalyst for helping to improve graduation rates in Indian River County of African-American students which had dropped below 30 percent in 1996 and today is approximately 74 percent; and,

WHEREAS, Gifford Youth Achievement Center, Inc. provides programs and activities for all ages including children, adults and senior citizens in its facility which contains classrooms, computer labs, a county library branch, and an indoor gymnasium; and,

WHEREAS, Gifford Youth Achievement Center, Inc. has established vital partnerships with many other local organizations who are passionate about supporting the mission which states "with God's guidance, we strive to encourage our children's development of self-esteem, teach character, and encourage every individual to reach for his or her ultimate potential".

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA that the Board recognizes the efforts of Gifford Youth Achievement Center, Inc. over the last 20 years of service in making Indian River County a better place for our children, adults and seniors.

Adopted this 20th day of February, 2018.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA**

Peter D. O'Bryan, Chairman

Bob Solari, Vice Chairman

Susan Adams

Joseph E. Flescher

Tim Zorc