

PROCLAMATION

LIGHTS ON AFTERSCHOOL

WHEREAS, the Boys and Girls Club of Indian River County, Crossover Mission, Dasie Hope Center, Feed the Lambs and the Gifford Youth Achievement Center stand firmly committed to quality afterschool programs and opportunities because they (1) provide safe, challenging, and engaging learning experiences that help children develop; (2) foster social, emotional, physical, and academic skills; (3) support working families by ensuring their children are safe and productive after the regular school day ends; (4) build stronger communities by involving students, parents, business leaders, and adult volunteers in the lives of young people, thereby promoting positive relationships among youth, families, and adults; and (5) engage families, schools, and community partners in advancing the welfare of our children; and

WHEREAS, the aforementioned organizations have provided significant leadership in the area of community involvement in the education and well-being of our youth, grounded in the principle that quality afterschool programs are vital to helping our children become successful adults; and

WHEREAS, *Lights On Afterschool*, the national celebration of afterschool programs held this year on October 22, 2020, promotes the importance of quality afterschool programs in the lives of children, families, and communities; and

WHEREAS, more than 28 million children in the U.S. have parents who work outside the home, and 15.1 million children have no place to go after school. Many afterschool programs across the country face funding shortfalls so severe that they are being forced to close their doors and turn off their lights; and

WHEREAS, the Boys and Girls Club of Indian River County, Crossover Mission, Dasie Hope Center, Feed the Lambs, and the Gifford Youth Achievement Center urge the citizens of Indian River County to ensure that every child has access to a safe, engaging place where the lights are on after school;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA that the Board of County Commissioners enthusiastically endorses *Lights On Afterschool* and is committed to innovative afterschool programs and activities that ensure that the lights stay on and the doors stay open for all children after school.

Adopted this 20th day of October, 2020.

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

Susan Adams, Chairman

Joseph E. Flescher, Vice Chairman

Tim Zorc

Peter D. O'Bryan

Bob Solari