

Alachua County Florida

A Proclamation

Declaring November 21st, 2013 as "Children's Grief Awareness Day" in Alachua County, Florida

Whereas, children who have experienced the death of a loved one, especially a close family member, can carry that loss within them forever, and it sometimes causes confusion in the minds of youngsters as they struggle to understand why their loved one was taken away; and

Whereas, the great majority of grieving children feel alone, not understood and fearful, on top of their feelings of grief, in many cases leading to an inability to manage or even face their grief; and

Whereas, many adults and other children erroneously believe that grieving children are resilient enough that they 'just get over' their grief, so much so that children have often been called 'forgotten mourners'; and

Whereas, for many grieving children, the most helpful reaction they can receive is an acknowledgment of their feelings, a listening ear and the support of caring individuals like family, friends and others also grieving a loss; and

Whereas, Children's Grief Awareness Day, observed each year on the Thursday before Thanksgiving, hopes to raise awareness of the painful impact that the death of a loved one has on the life of a child, and to provide ways for caring adults and young people to show their support and solidarity for grieving children; and

Whereas, on November 21st, 2013, thousands of children and adults from all walks of life from across the United States will join together to show their support for grieving children by participating in Children's Grief Awareness Day.

Now, therefore, through the authority vested in me by the Board of County Commissioners of Alachua County, Florida, I do hereby proclaim November 21st, 2013 as "Children's Grief Awareness Day" in Alachua County, Florida.

Duly proclaimed this 12th day of November, A.D., 2013.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA

By: _____
Mike Byerly, Chair

ATTEST:

J.K. Irby, Clerk