

Office of Mayor Craig Lowe PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, America's Promise Alliance, the nation's largest partnership organization dedicated to youth and children, announced our community has been named a winner of the Alliance's 100 Best Communities for Young People competition; and

WHEREAS, our entire community is brimming with innovative and collaborative efforts to benefit children, and the Alachua County Children's Alliance won the award for the county by capturing data and information on a huge variety of efforts; and

WHEREAS, local civic organizations, government leaders, the City Commission, faith based organizations, voters, public agencies, private non-profits, Casey Family Programs, law enforcement agencies, and the County Commission have managed to usher in new ways to collaborate and cooperate for kids; and

WHEREAS, one-third fewer child victims of maltreatment are living in foster care; our community has the state's only Neighborhood Resource Center housed with a store-front public library; the City of Gainesville's recreation programs are reaching more children after-school using a cadre of volunteers; the school system is recognized with outstanding student success on SAT's; United Way has mobilized Weekend Backpack programs; the Chamber of Commerce is focused on boosting graduation rates; and there are concerted community efforts to address domestic violence, childhood obesity, and improve access to health care. All these are among the many efforts cited in the award; and

WHEREAS, founder and America's Promise Alliance Chair, Alma Powell said, "Winning communities refuse to let the challenges they face be the determining factor in the lives of their children and youth. Instead, they are helping to build an infrastructure of assertive, successful and dynamic young people that are the future of this country."

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Craig Lowe, by the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Gainesville, do hereby proclaim November 7, 2010 as

Children's Alliance Celebration Day

in the City of Gainesville and invite all our citizens to join me in celebrating recognition of our community as one of the "100 Best Communities for Young People" in the nation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official seal of the City of Gainesville, Florida, this 14^{th} day of October, A.D., 2010.

Craig Lowe Craig Jowe Mayor