

# City of Gainesville, Florida

Office of Mayor Lauren Poe  
PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the National Federation of the Blind (NFB) was founded in 1940 to end discrimination against the blind and to secure first-class citizenship for all blind persons; and

WHEREAS, today the Federation, representing more than fifty thousand members across the country, continues to work to secure equal rights and opportunities for the blind; and

WHEREAS, the NFB works to change attitudes about blindness by providing information about blindness to parents, teachers, school administrators and business, political, social and civic leaders; and

WHEREAS, since blind people and blindness are still frequently misunderstood, the National Federation of the Blind has developed a public education campaign, "Meet the Blind Month", to create opportunities for the people of Florida to learn firsthand that blind people are basically like everyone else; and

WHEREAS, the Florida affiliate of the National Federation of the Blind, now in its 38<sup>th</sup> year, invites neighbors, coworkers and classmates to join them at various Meet the Blind events throughout the month of October to learn how blind people lead full and active lives.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lauren Poe, by the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Gainesville, do hereby proclaim October, 2016 as

## *National Federation of the Blind Meet the Blind Month*

in the City of Gainesville and invite all our citizens to join me and accept this invitation to meet with members of the National Federation of the Blind to create awareness and promote understanding of blindness issues.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official seal of the City of Gainesville, Florida, this 28<sup>th</sup> day of September, A.D., 2016.



Lauren Poe  
Mayor