

# *City of Boynton Beach*

## Proclamation

WHEREAS, the Guardian Ad Litem Program is a force of volunteers who advocate on behalf of children who have been abused, neglected, or abandoned by their caregivers; and

WHEREAS, Speak Up for Kids of Palm Beach County serves as exclusive nonprofit support funding wellness, normalcy, and therapeutic initiatives for children in care; and

WHEREAS, in 1984 Palm Beach County adopted the program and began with 15 volunteers and currently has a corps of greater than 600 volunteers serving the nearly 1,600 children in care; and

WHEREAS, in 2008 Speak Up for Kids of Palm Beach County was founded to fund gaps in needed services for child victims served by the Guardian ad Litem Program; and

WHEREAS, to illustrate the magnitude of the financial benefit of the collaboration between the Guardian Ad Litem Program and Speak Up for Kids brings to Florida, the services donated by Guardians across the state save Florida over \$18M in salaries and mileage reimbursement costs. That is greater than \$1M for Palm Beach County alone. The Guardian Ad Litem Program and Speak Up for Kids are making an impact in children's lives and the return on investment the program brings to the county is unparalleled; and

WHEREAS, Boynton Beach is a dynamic, multicultural, and vibrant city counted as the third largest in Palm Beach County. The leadership of the Guardian Ad Litem Program and Speak Up for Kids, is honored to join forces and collectively build awareness around and advocate for the best interests of our community's most vulnerable; and

WHEREAS, the Guardian Ad Litem Program and Speak Up for Kids are hereby recognized for their joint efforts and successes in standing united to ensure local children thrive.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Steven B. Grant, Mayor of the City of Boynton Beach, Florida, do hereby proclaim the month of May, Two Thousand Twenty-One as:

GUARDIAN AD LITEM, SPEAK UP FOR KIDS AND FOSTER CARE APPRECIATION MONTH

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Boynton Beach, Florida, to be affixed at Boynton Beach Florida, the 4<sup>th</sup> day of May, Two Thousand Twenty-One.

Steven B. Grant, Mayor

ATTEST:

Crystal Gibson, MMC  
City Clerk