

PROCLAMATION

ONE CITY. ONE JACKSONVILLE.

WHEREAS: Infant Mortality refers to the death of a baby before his or her first birthday; and

WHEREAS: Northeast Florida Healthy Start Coalition examines the Infant Mortality Rate in our region in a review called Project IMPACT. The most recent study revealed Duval County's infant mortality rate to be 9.5 deaths per 1,000 live births; and

WHEREAS: The rate is an indicator of the health of a community. In 2018, Northeast Florida's rate of 7.9 deaths per 1,000 live births remained higher than the state average of 6.2 and the national average of 5.9 which is among the highest rates for developed nations; and

WHEREAS: Many infant deaths can be traced to preventable causes and lack of health services. Leading causes of death include congenital malformations, short gestation and low birth weight, maternal complications, sudden unexpected infant death (SUID), and unintentional injury; and

WHEREAS: Since 1991, Florida's Healthy Start program and 32 community-led Healthy Start Coalitions have worked to reduce infant mortality and improve the health of all children, childbearing women and their families throughout Florida; and

WHEREAS: The National Infant Mortality Awareness Month campaign, held each September, was created to increase awareness of the high rates of infant deaths and to give every child the best chance to reach his or her first birthday and beyond.

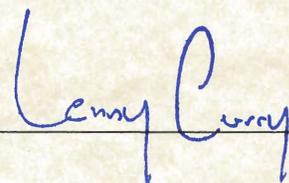
NOW, THEREFORE, I, LENNY CURRY, by virtue of the authority vested in me as mayor of Jacksonville, Florida, do hereby proclaim September 2019 as

INFANT MORTALITY AWARENESS MONTH

in Jacksonville and encourage all citizens to promote and provide a healthy start to life for every newborn child.



IN WITNESS THEREOF, this 19th day of August
in the year Two Thousand Nineteen



MAYOR

CITY OF JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA