

RESOLUTION NO. 16-____

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, DECLARING PRINCIPLES OF INCLUSION FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH AUTISM AND OTHER SPECIAL NEEDS AND URGING ACTION BY NATIONAL STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS BUSINESSES, AND RESIDENTIAL COMMUNITIES CONSISTENT WITH THESE PRINCIPLES

WHEREAS, approximately 1 in 68 children have an autism spectrum disorder according to a recent report from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and approximately 1 in 5 individuals have a disability according to the 2010 U.S. Census; and

WHEREAS, the United States of America is a signatory of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (“Convention”), which supports inclusion and accommodation of children and adults with special needs and disabilities; and

WHEREAS, the Convention has identified the following core principles of inclusion:

- a. Respect for inherent dignity, individual autonomy including the freedom to make one’s own choices, and independence of persons;
- b. Non-discrimination;
- c. Full and effective participation and inclusion in society;
- d. Respect for differences and acceptance of persons with disabilities as part of human diversity and humanity;
- e. Equality of opportunity;
- f. Accessibility;
- g. Equality between men and women;
- h. Respect for the evolving capacities of children with disabilities and respect for the right of children with disabilities to preserve their identities; and

WHEREAS, the Town is committed to the principle of inclusion as demonstrated through its collaboration with UM-NSU CARD (Center for Autism and Related Disabilities) to provide awareness for coaches and instructors in our athletic and recreation programs, Miami Lakes Optimist Club, Soccer Programs, YMCA and PEAR which are all committed to inclusion allowing participants of all abilities to participate, and facilitates programs for parents such as Bob Graham K-8 Monthly Parent Support meetings and residential groups such as Hope for Autism ; and

WHEREAS, the Town continues to seek partnerships and programs that fully inclusive, in order to assist children and adults with special needs in a welcoming manner in all aspects of daily life and urges action by government, businesses, educational institutions, residential communities and other entities consistent with and in support of inclusion.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. **Recitals.** The foregoing Recitals are true and correct and incorporated herein by this reference.

Section 2. **Expression of Commitment to Principle of Inclusion.** The Town expresses its commitment to these principles of inclusion to extend to all children and adults with special needs and disabilities in all aspects of governance and services.

Section 3. **Urging all residents, businesses, educational institutions to uphold these principles.** The Town urges all businesses, education institutions, residential communities, to adopt policies that support the principle of inclusion.

Section 4. Urging all universities and other places of learning to prioritize programs of inclusion. The Town urges universities and other places of learning to prioritize programs supporting inclusion of individuals with special needs and disabilities,

Section 5. Urging national, state and local governments to express their commitment to the principle of inclusion. The Town urges national, state and local governments to express their commitment to the principle of inclusion, and to expand their services to children and adults with special needs and disabilities.

Section 6. Effective Date. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

*****THIS PORTION HAS BEEN LEFT INTENTIONALLY BLANK *****

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 6th day of September, 2016.

Motion to adopt by _____, second by _____.

FINAL VOTE AT ADOPTION

Mayor Michael A. Pizzi, Jr.	_____
Vice Mayor Tim Daubert	_____
Councilmember Manny Cid	_____
Councilmember Ceasar Mestre	_____
Councilmember Frank Mingo	_____
Councilmember Tony Lama	_____
Councilmember Nelson Rodriguez	_____

Michael A. Pizzi, Jr.
MAYOR

Attest:

Approve as to Form and Legal Sufficiency

Gina Inguanzo
TOWN CLERK

Raul Gastesi, P.A.
TOWN ATTORNEY