



Proclamation

WHEREAS, problems stemming from substance use disorder continue to be prevalent in every state in the nation, but there is hope that we can overcome this epidemic if more people with substance use disorders are given access to peer recovery support through recovery community organizations; and

WHEREAS, removing the barriers to treatment and peer recovery supports improves the community's welfare and provides a renewed outlook on life for those who struggle with substance use or mental health disorders and for their family and friends; and

WHEREAS, recovery from substance use disorder is possible and treatment is effective, but the challenges that arise are identifying affected people and bringing them into treatment due to inadequate insurance coverage and shrinking state funding for treatment programs; and

WHEREAS, from 2010 to 2017, drug-related deaths more than doubled in Marion County. Between January and August 2020, 139 people lost their life to an overdose; of 1,700 Floridians, 70% of those who were having mental health and substance use issues felt like they could not or should not get help; and

WHEREAS, substance use disorders take an enormous toll for many in our community however, people in or seeking recovery are not alone; entire families are breaking the cycle and stigma of addiction as they embrace recovery through peer recovery support programs and peer recovery coaching services; and

WHEREAS, to help the recovery community fight back, Zero Hour Life Center connects individuals suffering with a substance use disorder or mental health disorders to peer recovery supports and services within Marion County and surrounding counties; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, KENT GUINN, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Ocala, do hereby proclaim the grand opening of Zero Hour Life Center the Recovery Community Organization in Ocala and call upon the people of Ocala to welcome this organization supporting recovery in our community.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Official Seal of the City of Ocala, Florida to be affixed this 22nd day of May 2021.



Kent Guinn, Mayor
City of Ocala