

WHEREAS, Systemic Lupus Erythematosus, commonly known as lupus, is a chronic, complex, and often life-threating autoimmune disease; that randomly attacks the body's own tissues, vital organs and joints; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that there are over 322,000 to 1.5 million people with lupus in the United States and there are an estimated 16,000 new cases each year. Lupus mostly strikes women of childbearing age. However, men, children and teenagers develop lupus, too; and

WHEREAS, increasing public awareness and focusing on public attention on lupus and its devastating impact on patients' lives will provide hope for a better future for those affected; and

WHEREAS, Lupus is one of the most difficult diseases to diagnose because its symptoms come and go, mimic other diseases, and there is no single test that can definitively identify the illness, early diagnosis and proper treatments are critical to the improvement of the quality of life and survival rate of people with Lupus, there is no known cause or cure for lupus; and

WHEREAS, Looms for Lupus works to raise awareness of the signs and symptoms of lupus and to promote education, research, social support, and quality medical care for our citizens who live with, or care for someone who struggles with this disease; and

NOW THEREFORE, I, Steven A. Hernandez, Mayor and Council of the City of Coachella, by the power vested in me, do hereby recognize May 2024 as

Lupus Awareness Month

and urge all citizens of the City of Coachella to increase awareness and understanding of lupus in our community.

IN WITNESS HEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the official seal of the City of Coachella, California to be affixed this 8th day of May 2024.

Steven A. Hernandez, Mayor City of Coachella, California