

CITY OF COACHELLA
CALIFORNIA

Proclamation

WHEREAS, Systemic Lupus Erythematosus (SLE), commonly known as Lupus, is a chronic, complex, and often life-threatening autoimmune disease; that randomly attacks the body's own tissues, vital organs and joints. It is a leading cause of premature cardiovascular disease, kidney disease, and stroke among young women, and currently, there is no cure; and

WHEREAS, Lupus affects more than five million people worldwide, with an estimated 16,000 new cases each year. Approximately 90% of individuals diagnosed with Lupus are women, typically during childbearing years (ages 15-45). However, men, children, and teenagers can also develop Lupus. Lupus is two to three times more common and tends to manifest more severely among African Americans, Hispanics, Latinos, Native Americans, and Asians compared to Caucasians; and

WHEREAS, many physicians worldwide remain unaware of the symptoms and health effects of Lupus, causing individuals to suffer for years, often enduring irreversible damage before receiving an accurate diagnosis and proper medical treatment. Medical research into Lupus remains underfunded compared to other diseases of similar magnitude and severity, highlighting the need for greater attention and investment; and

WHEREAS, Lupus is one of the most challenging diseases to diagnose due to its symptoms coming and going, mimicking other conditions, and the absence of a single definitive test to identify the illness. Increased awareness and education are vital to improving the quality of life for individuals living with Lupus and their caregivers, and to fostering better understanding of the disease's impact within communities worldwide; and

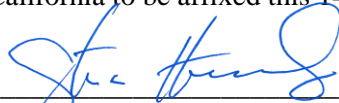
WHEREAS, Looms for Lupus works to raise awareness of the signs and symptoms of lupus and to promote education, research, social support, and quality medical care for our citizens who live with, or care for someone who struggles with this disease; and

NOW THEREFORE, I, Steven A. Hernandez, Mayor and Council of the City of Coachella, by the power vested in us, do hereby recognize May 2025 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 14th day of May 2025.



Steven A. Hernandez, Mayor
City of Coachella, California

