

Office of the City Commission

Proclamation

WHEREAS, the David Posnack JCC (DPJCC) established a vocational program dedicated to empowering individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) by providing meaningful opportunities for personal growth, independence, and community engagement; and

WHEREAS, this program flourished, fostering a strong sense of purpose and achievement among its participants, leading to the desire for expanded vocational training and real-world employment experiences; and

WHEREAS, through the dedication and vision of program leaders, and with the support of a grant opportunity from the U.S. Department of Labor, the foundation was laid for a transformative initiative that would combine vocational training with hands-on business experience; and

WHEREAS, the concept of a vocational training program integrated with a micro business food truck emerged offering participants valuable skills in food service, customer relations, and business operations ; and

WHEREAS, after months of planning and preparation, the grant application was successfully submitted, resulting in the creation of HIRE-Ability Vocational Training Program and the launch of The Square Bowl food truck, providing sustainable employment and career pathways for individuals with IDD; and

WHEREAS, in August 2024, the inaugural cohort of trainees in HIRE-Ability began their journey, engaging in professional certification courses, and by November 2024, all ten participants successfully earned their ServSafe Food Handler certifications, marking a significant milestone in their vocational achievements; and

WHEREAS, in February 2025, The Square Bowl food truck, a testament to innovation, inclusion, and the power of community collaboration in creating meaningful employment opportunities for individuals with IDD officially opened.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, James Curran, Mayor of the City of Cooper City, Broward County, Florida, and the City Commission, do hereby we recognize and commend the David Posnack JCC, its dedicated leaders, and all who contributed to making The Square Bowl a reality, ensuring a brighter and more inclusive future for all.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the City of Cooper City, Broward County, Florida, to be affixed on this 25th day of February, 2025.

James Curran

Mayor, City of Cooper City