



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, February is National Heart Month and time to raise awareness about heart health, CPR, and AED use through education, empowerment, and community resources; and.

WHEREAS, you do not need to be a medical professional to help during a cardiac arrest – bystanders are critical in the first minutes before responders arrive. Bystander chest compressions and use of an AED is one of the most consistent factors in cases where the person makes a full recovery; and

WHEREAS, 9 out of 10 people who suffer a cardiac arrest and receive a shock from an AED in the first minute, live and Fort Collins now has four new community AEDs, one in Old Town Square, Spring Park, Edora Park, and near Fossil Ridge High School; and

WHEREAS, many people do not provide CPR because they are afraid to do it wrong or legal retaliation, but it is almost impossible to do chest compressions incorrectly and Colorado's Good Samaritan Law protects those who render first aid; and

WHEREAS, hands-only CPR has been shown to be as effective in the first minutes as CPR with breaths – you can save a life by placing your hands on the center of the chest and pushing hard and fast; and

WHEREAS, Poudre Fire Authority offers free, non-certifying CPR, AED, and Stop the Bleed classes the first Wednesday of every month at fire stations. They teach what you need to know if someone you love needs your help.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Emily Francis, Mayor of the City of Fort Collins, do hereby proclaim the month of February 2026 as

HEART HEALTH MONTH

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the seal of the City of Fort Collins this 17th day of February, 2026.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk