## Levy County Florida A Proclamation

Declaring "November 2022", as "*National Hospice and Palliative Care Month*" In Levy County, Florida

**Whereas**, for more than 40 years, Haven has helped provide comfort and dignity to thousands of people in north Florida, allowing them to live their last months, weeks or days comfortably with the people they love; and

**Whereas**, Haven utilizes an interdisciplinary, team-oriented approach to treatment, including expert medical care, quality symptom control, and comprehensive pain management as a foundation of care; and

**Whereas**, beyond providing physical treatment, Haven attends to the patient's emotional, spiritual and family needs, and provides family services like respite care and bereavement counseling; and

Whereas, Haven provides community-based palliative care, which delivers expertise to improve quality of life and relief from pain and can be provided at any time during an illness; and

**Whereas**, in an increasingly fragmented and broken health care system, hospice is one of the few sectors that demonstrates how health care can – and should – work at its best for its patient; and

**Whereas**, every year 1.5 million Americans living with life-limiting illness, and their families, received care from the nation's hospice programs in communities throughout the United States, including Haven; and

**Whereas**, Haven is an advocate and educator about Advance Care Planning that helps individuals make decisions about the care they want; and

**Whereas**, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services have pledged to put patients first in all of its programs – including hospice – ensuring a coordinated and patient-led approach to care, protecting patient choice and access to individualized services based on a patient's unique care needs and wishes.

Now, Therefore, Be It Proclaimed by the Board of County Commissioners, of Levy County, Florida that the month of November 2022 shall be recognized as "National Hospice and Palliative Care Month" and encourage citizens to increase their understanding and awareness of care at the end of life, discuss their end of life wishes with their families, and observe this month with appropriate activities and programs

Duly proclaimed this 18<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2022.

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	Russell Meeks Jr., Chair
	John Meeks, Vice Chair
	Lilly Rooks, Commissioner
	Matt Brooks, Commissioner