

**Before the Board of County Commissioners  
Martin County, Florida**

**A Proclamation**

**Declaring Lupus Awareness Month in Martin County, Florida**

**Whereas,** lupus is an unpredictable and misunderstood autoimmune disease that can result in damage to any system in the body, can cause debilitating lifelong illness and can result in death; and

**Whereas,** more than five million people worldwide suffer the devastating effects of this mysterious disease and each year over a hundred thousand young women, men and children around the world are newly diagnosed, the great majority of whom are women between the ages of 15-44; and

**Whereas,** many physicians worldwide are unaware of the symptoms and health effects of lupus, causing people with the disease to suffer for an average of six years before they obtain a correct diagnosis and medical treatment; and

**Whereas,** medical research efforts into lupus and the discovery of safer, more effective treatments for lupus patients are still underfunded in comparison with diseases of comparable magnitude and severity; and

**Whereas,** there is a deep, unmet need worldwide to educate and support individuals and families affected by this disease.

Now, therefore, be it proclaimed by the Martin County Board of County Commissioners that **May 2026 is Lupus Awareness Month in Martin County, Florida.** Lupus organizations call for increases in public and private sector funding for medical research on lupus, targeted education programs for health professionals, patients and the public, and recognition of lupus as a significant public health issue.

**Presented this Ninth Day of June 2026**

ATTEST:

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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CAROLYN TIMMANN, CLERK OF THE  
CIRCUIT COURT AND COMPTROLLER

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