

P R O C L A M A T I O N

- WHEREAS, every person is endowed with human dignity and value, and redemption and second chances are American values; and,
- WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Justice reports that over 620,000 individuals returned to their community from state and federal prisons in 2016, including 31,957 from Florida; and,
- WHEREAS, individuals with a criminal history face significant barriers such as the inability to find housing, employment or education, volunteer in their community, and pay significant debt that arises because of their conviction and incarceration; and,
- WHEREAS, these barriers prevent the 65 million Americans with criminal records from contributing fully to their families and communities, and can contribute to recidivism, which increases victimization and decreases public safety; and,
- WHEREAS, the Second Chance Act of 2007 has provided reentry services to over 137,000 people in 49 states and the District of Columbia since its passage April 9, 2008; and,
- WHEREAS, April 21 is the anniversary of the death of Charles Colson, a longtime Collier County resident, who used his second chance following his incarceration to found Prison Fellowship, the nation's largest outreach to prisoners and their families; and,
- WHEREAS, the designation of April as Second Chance Month can contribute to increased public awareness about the challenges faced by those who have paid their debt, and opportunities for individuals, employers, congregations, and communities to extend second chances.

NOW THEREFORE be it proclaimed by the Board of County Commissioners of Collier County, Florida, that April be designated as

SECOND CHANCE MONTH IN COLLIER COUNTY

DONE AND ORDERED THIS 10th Day of April 2018.



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
COLLIER COUNTY, FLORIDA


ANDY SOLIS, CHAIRMAN