Proclamation

Office of the Mayor

National Braille Literacy Month

WHEREAS, Braille is an essential and effective system of reading and writing that provides individuals who are blind or visually impaired with access to education, information, and lifelong learning; and

WHEREAS, the Braille system was developed in the early 19th century by Louis Braille, who lost his sight at a young age and went on to create a tactile reading and writing system that revolutionized literacy for individuals who are blind or visually impaired, transforming access to education, communication, and opportunity; and

WHEREAS, literacy is a cornerstone of academic success, independence, and full participation in society, and Braille literacy plays a critical role in improving educational outcomes and employment opportunities for individuals with visual impairments; and

WHEREAS, National Braille Literacy Month is observed each January in recognition of the birthday of Louis Braille, January 4th, 1809, his work has empowered millions; and

WHEREAS, educators, families, and community partners play a vital role in supporting Braille instruction and ensuring students who are blind or visually impaired have equitable access to educational resources and learning opportunities; and

WHEREAS, promoting Braille literacy strengthens inclusive education, fosters independence, and affirms the value of accessible communication for learners of all ages; and

WHEREAS, Lighthouse of Broward County has a long-standing history of providing vital educational services, vision rehabilitation, and Braille literacy instruction to individuals who are blind or visually impaired, empowering them to achieve independence, academic success, and meaningful participation in the community; and

WHEREAS, recognizing the value of Braille literacy fosters inclusion and affirms the need for continued advocacy, awareness, and support for individuals who rely on Braille for effective communication and independence.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that I, Michael J. Ryan, Mayor of the City of Sunrise, Florida, together with the City Commissioners do hereby proclaim the month of January 2026 as: **National Braille Literacy Month** in the City of Sunrise.

Witness My Hand and Official Seal of
The City of Sunrise, Florida

Michael J. Ryan, Mayor