



PROCLAMATION

ONE CITY. ONE JACKSONVILLE.

WHEREAS: Blue Star Families seeks to empower military families by connecting them with their neighbors — individuals and organizations — to create vibrant communities of mutual support; and

WHEREAS: Blue Star Families annually designates the week beginning the second to last Saturday in September and concluding eight days thereafter as “Blue Star Welcome Week”; and

WHEREAS: During this week, we recognize the 600,000 active-duty and transitioning military families who move to new communities each year; and

WHEREAS: Nearly half of these permanent change of station (PCS) moves occur during the summer; and

WHEREAS: Only 33% of military family respondents to the 2022 Military Family Lifestyle Survey reported that they feel a sense of belonging to their local civilian community; and

WHEREAS: A sense of belonging is essential to the well-being and readiness of military families; and

WHEREAS: Jacksonville is proud to be a military- and veteran-friendly town. Over a quarter of Jacksonville’s residents are connected to the military, making up a robust network of active duty and veteran service members and their families; and

WHEREAS: We express gratitude for the sacrifices made by service members, transitioning Veterans, and their families.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, DONNA DEEGAN, by virtue of the authority vested in me as mayor of Jacksonville, Florida, do hereby proclaim September 23 – October 1, 2023 as

BLUE STAR WELCOME WEEK

In Jacksonville and encourage all citizens to welcome military- and veteran-connected families into the community.



IN WITNESS THEREOF, this 7th Day of Sep. in the year Two Thousand and Twenty-Three.


MAYOR

CITY OF JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA