

Introduced By: Vice Chair Collazo
Sponsored By: Chair DiChiara
Contact: sga_sci4@ucf.edu
First Reading: June 13, 2024
Committee Action: Passed 9-0-1
Second Reading: June 20, 2024
Final Vote: Passed 36-1-0



**University of Central Florida
Fifty-Sixth Student Body Senate
Proclamation 56-06**

[Proclamation Recognizing the Month of June as PTSD Awareness Month]

WHEREAS, Senate Rule 2.04(G)(1) states that the Student Body Advocacy (SBA) Committee shall pass measures advocating on behalf of the student body regarding student and university affairs at the University of Central Florida (UCF);
WHEREAS, Senate Rule 5.01(D)(1) states that Proclamations are defined as measures recognizing, celebrating, or condemning extraordinary events, organizations, or individuals on behalf of all Student Government Agents;
WHEREAS, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) is a significant mental health condition triggered by a terrifying event, either experiencing it or witnessing it, that affects millions of Americans regardless of their age, race, or background;
WHEREAS, approximately 6 out of every 100 people (or 6% of the U.S. population) will experience PTSD at some point in their lives, with many recovering after receiving appropriate treatment;
WHEREAS, PTSD affects about 5% of American adults annually, translating to around 13 million individuals in 2020, demonstrating the widespread impact of this condition;
WHEREAS, veterans, who often face unique and challenging experiences during their service, are at a higher risk, with data indicating that about 7 out of every 100 veterans will experience PTSD at some point in their lives, a prevalence slightly higher than in the general population;
WHEREAS, research indicates that PTSD occurrences vary by service era, with veterans of Operations Iraqi Freedom (OIF) and Enduring Freedom (OEF) experiencing some of the highest rates at 29%;
WHEREAS, PTSD is also a critical issue among children and teenagers, with studies showing that between 3% to 15% of girls and 1% to 6% of boys who experience trauma develop PTSD, highlighting the profound effects of traumatic events on the youth;
WHEREAS, the risk factors for PTSD include the severity of the trauma, proximity to the event, and the individual's personal response, underscoring the need for supportive interventions and family support; and
WHEREAS, raising awareness about PTSD, its symptoms, and treatment options can significantly improve the lives of individuals affected by this disorder, promoting healing and resilience in our community.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fifty-Sixth Student Senate of the University of Central Florida recognizes June as PTSD Awareness Month and commits to enhancing awareness, providing support, and advocating for effective treatment and services for all individuals affected by PTSD; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this Proclamation be sent to Dean of the College of Arts and Humanities Jeffrey Moore, Director of the Military and Veteran Student Success Center Michael Kepner, President of the Student Veterans of America UCF Chapter Michael Richardson, President of the UCF Women's Veteran Association, Professor of Military Science/MSIV Instructor LTC Keith Williams, UCF AFROTC Detachment 159 Commander Colonel Phelemon T. Williams II, UCF PD, Executive Director of UCF RESTORES Dr. Deborah Beidel, UCF Counseling and Psychological Services, UCF Psychological Society, UCF Psi Chi International Honor Society, Knights Multicultural Psychological Student Association (KMPSA), and Neuroscience Alliance at UCF.

AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES

Handwritten signature of Allison Pohlmann in black ink.

Allison Pohlmann
Senate President

06/24/2024

Date

Handwritten signature of Bryce Lister in black ink.

Bryce Lister
Student Body President

07/01/2024

Date