



## NEWS RELEASE

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**MIAMI-DADE COUNTY COMMISSIONER JUAN C. ZAPATA  
DISTRICT 11**

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**State Representative Eric Fresen sponsors House Resolution 9057 designating  
March “Cerebral Palsy Awareness Month” in the state of Florida**

**(MIAMI)** – At 11 a.m. on Friday, March 27, 2015, House Resolution 9057 was adopted confirming that March is Cerebral Palsy Awareness Month in the State of Florida. This House Resolution was sponsored by State Representative Eric Fresen (District 114 – Republican) and confirmed during this morning’s House session.

This Resolution started as a request from Miami-Dade County Commissioner Juan C. Zapata (District 11). Commissioner Zapata is a supporter of Blossoms Therapy Center and Voices for Cerebral Palsy a/k/a Samantha’s Purpose, non-profit organizations that were started by two families who have daughters with Cerebral Palsy. In March 2014, Commissioner Zapata sponsored a proclamation confirming March 25<sup>th</sup> as Cerebral Palsy Awareness Day in Miami-Dade County. Zapata understands the need to raise Cerebral Palsy awareness and has been instrumental in helping to get the word out about this disability.

2015 has been quite a historic year for Cerebral Palsy awareness in the state of Florida. This month alone the First Annual Walk, Run and Stroll for Cerebral Palsy was held in Miami-Dade County – the only Cerebral Palsy Awareness walk in the area. On March 25<sup>th</sup>, Miami Dade College and the Intercontinental Hotel illuminated their edifices green to commemorate National Cerebral Palsy Day. This is the second year that Miami Dade College has donated its time and resources to further the cause.

Cerebral Palsy is a neurological disorder that affects a person’s coordination and muscle control. The disorder usually manifests in infancy or early childhood. While there is currently no cure, physical, occupational and speech therapy, as well as other alternative therapies, are required to help individuals with CP.

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