

PROCLAMATION



State of Florida
Collier County
City of Marco Island

WHEREAS, Florida has the highest percentage of citizens aged 65 and older in the United States; and

WHEREAS, one fourth of people 65 and older will fall each year; and

WHEREAS, one out of five falls causes a serious injury such as broken bones or a head injury; and

WHEREAS, falls are the leading cause of both fatal and nonfatal injuries among people 65 and older in Florida; and

WHEREAS, in 2020 the average hospitalization charge for an unintentional fall among Florida residents ages 65 and older was \$42,852; and

WHEREAS, injuries from falls are a preventable community health problem; and

WHEREAS, falls prevention education is a key first step to increasing public awareness regarding elder falls prevention and home safety; and

WHEREAS, evidence-based programs reduce falls by utilizing strategies such as exercise programs, balance screenings, medication management, vision improvement, reduction of home hazards, and fall prevention education; and

WHEREAS, the Lee County Trauma Services District serves a five county region (Charlotte, Collier, Hendry, Glades and Lee) in Southwest Florida and the non-profit organization "Step Smart" are partnering to provide awareness, education and a multidisciplinary approach to preventing falls throughout Southwest Florida.

NOW THEREFORE, be it proclaimed by the Marco Island City Council that September 22, 2021 is designated as

"Falls Prevention Awareness Day"

DONE AND ORDERED THIS 20th day of September 2021.

Jared Grifoni, Chairman

ATTEST

Laura Litzan, City Clerk