

DURHAM BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

*Proclamation*

**THE WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD | 2019**

- WHEREAS,** early childhood — from birth to age 5 — represents the most critical time in children’s development and is the foundation for success in school and life; and
- WHEREAS,** Durham's Partnership for Children along with Child Care Services Association and Durham Technical Community College are celebrating the nationally recognized Week of the Young Child; and
- WHEREAS,** making sure children are ready to learn is a community endeavor that involves parents, child care providers, policy makers, businesses, congregations and community agencies; and
- WHEREAS,** high-quality early care supports Durham’s current workforce for families with young children who rely on child care to work; and
- WHEREAS,** early care and education is an economic development strategy at the beginning of the talent pipeline; and
- WHEREAS,** early childhood programs support children and families as they prepare to enter school; and
- WHEREAS,** Transition to kindergarten must be a smooth, coordinated process for children, parents, and schools that greatly minimizes the achievement gap; and
- WHEREAS,** comprehensive, bilingual, evidence-based programs in parent education and literacy increase family stability; and
- WHEREAS,** access to health care and early intervention are improved through community partnerships and government initiatives to positively impact young children’s health; and
- WHEREAS,** collaborative services, family support, and education can help break the cycle of poverty and dismantle systems that perpetuate racial disparities and inequity that affects more than half of Durham’s children and create opportunities in early childhood that have a lasting impact in the community; and
- WHEREAS,** our community leaders have invested significant resources into research, data analysis and programmatic interventions for young children; and,
- WHEREAS,** Durham continues to be a leader in Statewide and National efforts that prioritize children birth to age 5 and their families.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Wendy Jacobs, Chair of the Durham Board of County Commissioners and on behalf of the Durham Board of County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim April 8-12, 2019 as

**“THE WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD”**

and recognize Durham’s Partnership for Children, Child Care Services Association, and Durham Technical Community College for the exemplary model of collaboration, which continues to improve the landscape of early education for Durham residents and benefits present and future generations.

This 8<sup>th</sup> day of April 2019

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Wendy Jacobs, Chair  
Durham Board of County Commissioner

