

DURHAM BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

*Proclamation*

**FOSTER CARE MONTH | 2019**

- WHEREAS,** the family, serving as the primary source of love, identity, self-esteem and support, is the foundation of our communities and our State; and
- WHEREAS,** over 437,465 American children are in foster care because their own families are in crisis and unable to provide for their essential well-being; and
- WHEREAS,** more than 16,000 children live in foster care in North Carolina because their own families are in crisis and unable to provide for their essential well-being; and
- WHEREAS,** foster families, who open their homes and hearts as a support to families and not a substitute for parents, play a vital role in helping children and families to heal and reconnect and launching children into successful adulthood; and
- WHEREAS,** in Durham County, there were 313 children and youth in foster care on April 1, 2019 being provided with a safe, secure, and stable home along with the compassion and nurture of a foster family; and
- WHEREAS,** the needs of the foster care population result in a greater call for skilled foster families, community resources and partnerships; and
- WHEREAS,** the Durham County foster care system depends on the active support and involvement of the Durham community; and
- WHEREAS,** the Durham County Department of Social Services is joined by numerous individuals, public, and private organizations who work to increase public awareness of the needs of children in and leaving foster care, as well as the enduring and valuable contribution of foster parents, the Durham County Department of Social Services acknowledges that the foster care “system” is only as good as those who choose to be part of it. Therefore, partnerships on the state, county, and community levels are critical to its success.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** I, Wendy Jacobs, Chair of the Durham Board of County Commissioners and on behalf of the Durham Board of County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim May 2019 as

**“FOSTER CARE MONTH”**

in Durham County, North Carolina and I commend this observance to our community and urge all citizens to come forward and do something positive that will help raise hope and foster dreams of children and youth in foster care.

This the 13<sup>th</sup> day of May 2019.

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Wendy Jacobs, Chair  
Durham Board of County Commissioners

