

Mecklenburg County

North Carolina

Proclamation

WHEREAS, Africa Day, celebrated annually on May 25th, commemorates the historic foundation of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) on May 25, 1963, a pivotal moment in the fight against colonialism and the promotion of unity, independence, and solidarity among African nations; and

WHEREAS, the OAU evolved into the African Union (AU) in 2002, expanding its mission to foster socio-economic development, defend the sovereignty of member states, and promote international collaboration for the benefit of the African continent and its diaspora; and

WHEREAS, Mecklenburg County acknowledges the instrumental role of The African Think Tank in fostering a sense of belonging, building bridges between the African Diaspora, friends of Africa, and local communities, promoting opportunities for collaboration and youth; and

WHEREAS, the establishment of Africa Day celebrations in Mecklenburg County marks the first official recognition of this holiday in North Carolina, symbolizing the County's commitment to embracing and celebrating the rich diversity and cultural heritage of the African Diaspora; and

WHEREAS, Africa Day serves as a platform to honor Africa's historical achievements, including its strides towards unity and liberation from foreign domination, while also recognizing its modern successes in areas such as health, education, entrepreneurship, women's empowerment, and sustainable development; and

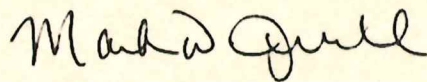
WHEREAS, Mecklenburg County celebrates the African Union's initiatives, which inspired global and local awareness of Africa's potential by advancing sustainable development goals in youth and senior engagement, economic empowerment, and healthcare; encouraging government entities, businesses, and community organizations to honor Africa's heritage and foster cross-cultural unity through events and programs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners does hereby proclaim, May 25, 2025, as

"AFRICA DAY"

in Mecklenburg County and encourages all residents to join in this special observance.

This 6th day of May 2025



Mark D. Jerrell, Chair
Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners

