

# Mecklenburg County

## North Carolina

# Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, Mecklenburg County is home to a vibrant and diverse community, among which are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ) citizens and residents; and

**WHEREAS**, Mecklenburg County's LGBTQ community, their family, friends, neighbors, and co-workers, have positively shaped the cultural, business, civic, faith, and social fabric of the county throughout its history; and

**WHEREAS**, all modern Pride events find their origin in the iconic Stonewall Riots of June 1969 and the first Christopher Street Liberation Day March in 1970 in New York City, largely organized by LGBTQ people of color, transgender people, and young people; and

**WHEREAS**, LGBTQ residents of Mecklenburg County first attempted to organize Gay Liberation Movement organizations as early as 1971, with Charlotte's first Pride events finally held in 1981 and the ensuing decades inspiring the creation of Charlotte Pride in 2000; and

**WHEREAS**, Charlotte Black Pride was founded in 2005 with the mission to promote LGBTQ pride primarily for, but not limited to, members of the Black community while building social awareness, embracing spirituality, and celebrating the diversity that exists within our community; and

**WHEREAS**, each July, Black members of the LGBTQ community and their allies gather to celebrate the history, culture, achievements, aspirations, and dreams during Charlotte Black Pride Week and will this year hold their annual celebration "P.O.P. - Pride on Purpose;" and

**WHEREAS**, community members will join together July 13 to Sunday, July 21, to celebrate the history, culture, community, and triumphs of Black LGBTQ people across our region; and

**WHEREAS**, this August, Charlotte Pride will celebrate the 24th anniversary of its founding and the 43rd anniversary of the first Pride events in Mecklenburg County; and

**WHEREAS**, the Charlotte Pride Festival and Parade is the largest LGBTQ community event in the American Southeast, second only to Atlanta, and the largest annual parade in Mecklenburg County, contributing millions of dollars in economic impact each year:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners does hereby proclaim July 13-21, 2024, as

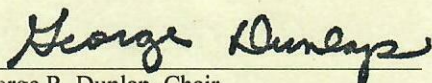
**"CHARLOTTE BLACK PRIDE WEEK"**

and August 9-18, 2024, as

**"CHARLOTTE PRIDE WEEK"**

in Mecklenburg County and encourages all citizens to join us in these special observances.

This 7<sup>th</sup> day of August 2024.



George R. Dunlap, Chair,  
Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners

