

Mecklenburg County

North Carolina

Proclamation

WHEREAS, alcohol is the most commonly used addictive substance in the United States; and

WHEREAS, more than 1.6 million young people report driving under the influence of alcohol in the past year; and

WHEREAS, young people who begin drinking before age 15 are four times more likely to develop alcohol dependence than those who begin at age 21; and

WHEREAS, drinking by persons under the age of 21 is linked to 189,000 emergency room visits; and

WHEREAS, the typical American will see 100,000 beer commercials before he or she turns 18; and

WHEREAS, there are 1 in 3 Mecklenburg County youth that has drank alcohol in the last 30 days; and

WHEREAS, forty percent of Mecklenburg County youth say it is easy to get alcohol; and

WHEREAS, youth who drink are more likely to be victims of violent crime, to be involved in alcohol-related traffic crashes, and to have serious school-related problems; and

WHEREAS, a supportive family environment is associated with lowered rates of alcohol use for adolescents; and

WHEREAS, youth who have conversations with their parents and learn about the dangers of alcohol and drug use are 50% less likely to use alcohol and drugs than those who don't have such conversations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners now join Anuvia Prevention & Recovery Center and the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence, Inc. (NCADD) to hereby proclaim April 2018 as

ALCOHOL AWARENESS MONTH 2018

in Mecklenburg County and we call upon all citizens, parents, government agencies, public and private institutions, businesses, hospitals, schools and colleges in Mecklenburg County to support efforts that will provide early education about alcoholism and addiction and increase support for individuals and families coping with alcoholism. Through these efforts, together, we can provide hope, help, and healing for those in our community who are facing challenges with alcohol use and abuse.

This the 20th day of March 2018



Ella B. Scarborough, Chair
Mecklenburg Board of
County Commissioners

