

Mecklenburg County

North Carolina

Proclamation

WHEREAS, all children deserve love, support, security, safe, and permanent homes where they can grow and be nurtured; and

WHEREAS, in Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, 497 children are in the custody of the Department of Social Services; and

WHEREAS, many of these children cannot be returned to the custody of their parents and need the security and nurturing of new, permanent families; and

WHEREAS, the goal of 117 of these children is adoption; and

WHEREAS, Mecklenburg County is currently recruiting families to provide a permanent home filled with love and care for these children who do not have an adoptive family identified; and

WHEREAS, most of these children have special needs because of physical, mental or emotional disabilities, because they must be placed as sibling groups, because they are children of color, or because they are older children; and

WHEREAS, everyone in Mecklenburg County can play a role in the lives of children in our child welfare system; and

WHEREAS, children waiting for a permanent home, as well as families who have adopted or served as guardian caretakers for these children, require and deserve community and public agency support.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mecklenburg County Board of Commissioners does hereby proclaim November 2018 as

"NATIONAL ADOPTION AWARENESS MONTH"

in Mecklenburg County and urges all citizens, community agencies, religious organizations, businesses and others to celebrate families that offer permanency to foster care children through adoption or becoming guardian caretakers. Also, to recognize those children who live with the burden of an uncertain future while they await permanent families.

This the 7th day of November 2018



**Ella B. Scarborough, Chair
Mecklenburg County
Board of Commissioners**

