## Mecklenburg County North Carolina

## North Carolina Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, excessive drinking is responsible for more than 4,300 deaths among underage youth each year; and

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

**WHEREAS**, nearly half of Mecklenburg County young people who drink had their first drink before the age of 15; and

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

WHEREAS, kids 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, only 12% of parents have clear rules about alcohol use; and

**WHEREAS**, kids who have conversations with their parents and learn a lot about the dangers of alcohol and drug use are 50 percent 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 joins Anuvia Prevention & Recovery Center to hereby proclaim April 2019 as

## **ALCOHOL AWARENESS MONTH 2019**

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 "Help for Today, Hope for Tomorrow" for those in our community who are facing challenges with use of alcohol.

This the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of April 2019

George Dunlap, Chair Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners